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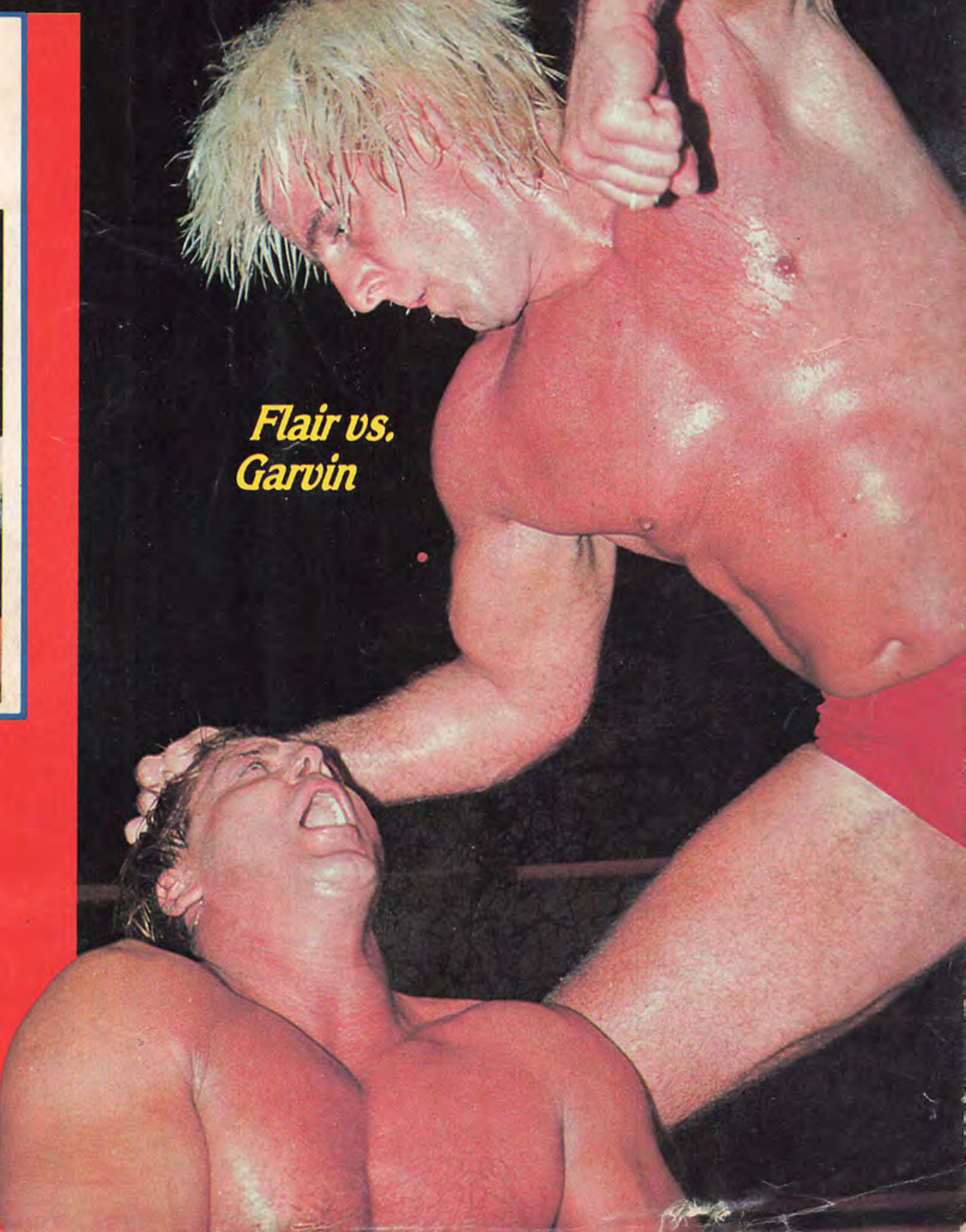

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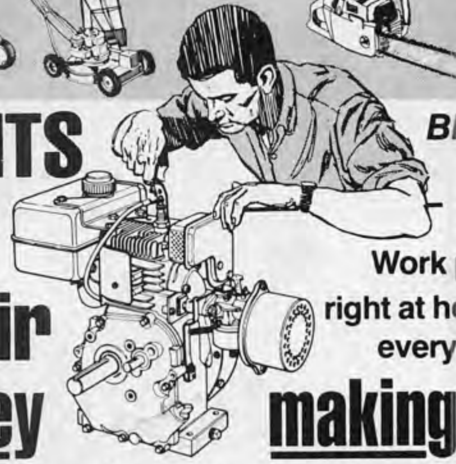

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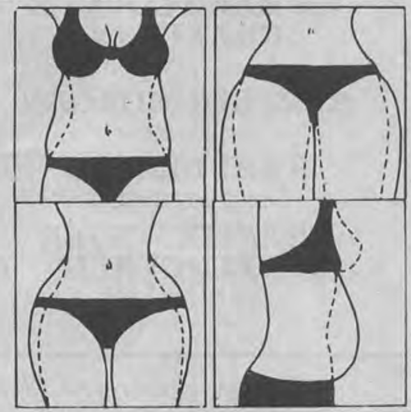

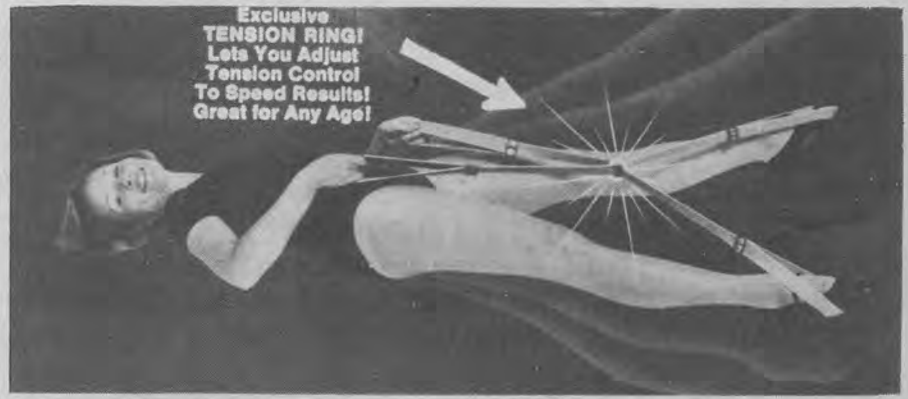

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The Wrestler

CONTENTS/OCTOBER 1984

6 YOUR LETTERS
Ban The Warriors?; Thumbs Down To Rich; Fabulous Champions

8 WHAT'S HAPPENING
All the latest news as of press time

10 CORRESPONDENTS REPORTS
Eyewitness coverage of the month's major matches

12 YOU ASKED US
Top stars answer YOUR questions

14 THUMBS UP, THUMBS DOWN
Cheers and jeers to those who deserve them most

18 INTRODUCING MISSING LINK
A profile of this most unusual World Class star

22 Q & A
A probing interview with Iceman King Parsons

26 X-RAY
Our panel of experts examines Buzz Sawyer

28 CAN THE AWA SATISFY ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER'S BLOODLUST?
The madman from the Sudan rampages through the AWA

31 KING KONG BUNDY VS. JERRY LAWLER: HOW JIMMY HART ENGINEERED BUNDY'S RETURN TO TERROR
Hated and despised again . . . for one night!

34 RIC FLAIR'S THIRD TITLE REIGN WILL BE HIS SHORTEST!
An exclusive analysis by Harley Race

36 AN ODD COUPLE AT ODDS: WHY DUSTY RHODES AND ADRIAN STREET WILL NEVER TEAM AGAIN
"The Exotic One" is not Dusty's idea of the American dream!

39 MAGNUM T.A.: "I WANT WRESTLING II TO COACH ME AGAIN!"
A shocking turnaround in attitude

42 BOB ARMSTRONG'S MESSAGE TO HIS SON BRAD: "DiBIASE IS MY PROBLEM, NOT YOURS!"
The campaign for bloody revenge continues anew

46 BEYOND THE SQUARED CIRCLE
Candid photos of your favorite stars

63 RATINGS ANALYSIS
A look at the Southwest ratings

64 OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS
The sport's most respected rankings

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YOUR LETTERS

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BAN THE WARRIORS?

Are you nuts? Ban The Road Warriors from wrestling? I'll be the first to admit that I'm not a fan of Hawk and Animal's, but there is absolutely no reason at all why they should be banned. Here are my reasons:

Everyone remembers The Moondogs, who brought bones into the ring to use as weapons to defeat their opponents. Did anyone ever try to at least ban the bones? No. I'm sure everyone remembers George Steele. This man is an animal. He has been banned in several states, but he has always been around.

The NWA is trying to ban The Road Warriors from wrestling completely! I think the NWA is scared that The Road Warriors are unbeatable, and that there's nobody in the country who could come close to defeating them.

I was at the spectacular NWA card of wrestling in New Jersey's Brendan Byrne Meadowlands Arena. The Road Warriors were pitted against Jimmy Valiant and the big, 420-pound King Kong Bundy. Not only were The Road Warriors victorious, but they put Bundy's shoulders to the mat for a count of three. I don't think many wrestlers can attest to that!

The Road Warriors could be the best tag team in wrestling history, but the NWA is trying to put a stop to it. It just isn't fair.

GARY KLEIN
West Orange, NJ

The Road Warriors, Hawk (pulverizing Pez Whatley) and Animal are in jeopardy of being banned by the NWA.

FABULOUS CHAMPIONS

I just received my August 1984 issue of *The Wrestler,* and when I read the letter about The Fabulous Ones written by Amy Garst, I suddenly felt sick to my stomach. Doesn't she know that these are the kind of letters that turn scientific wrestlers into rulebreakers? Here on the West Coast I've never seen them wrestle, but through magazine stories I've learned to admire them. I don't blame Steve Keirn and Stan Lane for leaving the Mid-Southern area. Who could? And I sure can't think of two better tag team champions.

SCOTT OLSEN
Portland, OR

THUMBS DOWN TO RICH

In the July 1984 issue of *The Wrestler,* you gave Tommy Rich a "Thumbs Up." I normally enjoy your magazines, but in this case you've got to be kidding. One of the reasons you gave was because he, "has made the adjustment to tag team wrestling very easily."

Instead of this, why didn't you give Rich a "Thumbs Down" for breaking a contract and returning to wrestling in the first place?

(Continued on page 58)

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WHAT'S HAPPENING!

By BILL APTER

Buck Zumhofe and Iceman King Parsons regained the World Class American tag team belts from Bill and Hoss Irwin in a most unusual manner. The fans are hoping that "Rock 'n' Soul" will reign as champions for many months to come.

The team of **Iceman King Parsons** and **Buck Zumhofe** have regained the American tag team belts from the brother combination of **Bill** and **Hoss Irwin** (the unmasked **The Super Destroyers**). The match will likely go down in World Class wrestling history as one of the most unusual title changes of all time.

In the middle of June, the American tag team belts belonged to the Irwins. They were supposed to defend the title against the "Rock 'n' Soul" combination of Zumhofe and Parsons, but Hoss was injured and unable to compete. World Class wrestling officials deemed that a title match must take place, and they sanctioned a special singles match—with the tag team title on the line—between Bill Irwin and Iceman Parsons. It was to be two out of three falls with a 60-minute time limit.

In the third and deciding fall, with Irwin on the defensive, the bell rang signaling the end of the match. The timekeeper at ringside, however, claimed that he didn't ring the bell and there were still 1½ minutes to go in the match. In reality, it was **Gen. Skandor Akbar** who rang the bell. The belts were held up and a rematch ordered where Parsons and Irwin would wrestle the remaining 1½ minutes plus a penalty period of five minutes. In that match, Parsons scored a pinfall victory and won the tag team belts for his team.

Wahoo McDaniel won the U.S. heavyweight title in what former champion **Rick Steamboat** has termed "a tainted victory." During the match, **Tully Blanchard** ran to the ring and attempted to smash McDaniel in the head with a chair. McDaniel ducked, the chair hit

(Continued on page 54)

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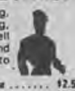

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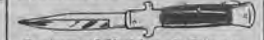

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Columbia, South Carolina *(Correspondent*—Jack L. Murphy): A poor decision by the referee allowed Ivan Koloff and Don Kernodle to retain their NWA World tag team championship against Pistol Pez Whatley and Mark Youngblood.

This return match was signed as a no-disqualification bout, a stipulation that the angry fan favorites took advantage of immediately. As the opening bell rang, Whatley and Youngblood attacked their rivals. When order was restored, Koloff and Whatley squared off in the ring while Kernodle snuck around the ring in an attempt to catch Whatley off-guard.

The first three times, Kernodle was ordered back to his corner by the referee. Kernodle was successful on his fourth try, however, and hurt Whatley with a punch. The sneak-attack backfired, however, as Koloff, who was trying to tag out to Kernodle, found his corner empty.

As Kernodle returned to his corner, Whatley pulled Koloff into the opposite corner and tagged up with Youngblood, who dazed the Russian with tomahawk chops.

Koloff got to his corner to tag his rested partner. Kernodle suplexed Youngblood, who then fell victim to a double-teaming attack by the champions. After several failed attempts, Youngblood got back to his corner to tag Whatley.

Kernodle untied the tag rope from the turnbuckle, but Youngblood stole it from him and used it to choke each of the champions until the referee took it away. Chaos ensued in the ring with all four combatants fighting it out. Kernodle covered Youngblood for a pin. Whatley simultaneously covered Koloff. Although Whatley and Koloff were the legal men in the ring, the referee awarded the bout to the champions.

In other bouts, Angelo Mosca defeated The Assassin by disqualification . . . Ernie Ladd beat Brett Hart . . . Kabuki defeated Mark Fleming . . . Keith Larsen defeated Kurt Von Hess.

Pistol Pez Whatley topples Ivan Koloff with a vertical bodyblock. Whatley and Mark Youngblood narrowly missed taking the NWA tag team title from Koloff and Don Kernodle.

St. Louis, Missouri *(Correspondent*—Calvin Allen): Paul "Mr. Wonderful" Orndorff was disqualified for attempting to use a foreign object in his WWF title

(Continued on page 48)

HOW TO READ ANYONE'S MIND

Truly incredible! Incredibly true! Finally, you can crash the barrier to genuine person-to-person thought communication as you never could before. All alone, with no help, no tricks of any kind, perform the fantastic feat that defies explanation: *Actually visualize ideas, images, and words from someone else's mind right in your own head—as if you were reading the pages of a book!*

Forget about distance! Your subject can be in the same room with you, chatting with you by telephone, or completely out of sight across the country. You still can do it. Accept the unprecedented proposal offered to you in this announcement—*and I'll prove it to you.*

I know exactly what you are thinking right now.

You are quite intrigued. And most skeptical. You sincerely believe that is absolutely impossible. That *no one* can really read anyone else's mind. From miles away? *Never!*

You have every right to be unconvinced. "Mind-reading" is usually a stunt performed on TV or in a club. We all know that such demonstrations rely on some kind of secret gimmick.

That while it's great entertainment—it's an out and out fake. Certainly not the *real* thing.

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His manuscript stunned me. Practically knocked me off my chair. Any lingering doubt I ever had about the "impossibility" of person-to-person mind communication went flying out the window!

I just couldn't believe my eyes. Here it was, in black and white. Written in simple language anyone could understand. An easy-to-learn *break-through* technique to enable an ordinary man or woman to read someone else's mind. Anytime. Anywhere. *At will!*

A TECHNIQUE SO POWERFUL IT MIGHT EVEN BE ILLEGAL!

My first inclination was to burn the manuscript. To destroy it entirely. In the wrong hands, it could be *dynamite!*

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If you are such a person, I am more than willing to let you try it out without your risking one cent. That's how confident I am of the integrity and power of this most innovative technique.

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Like it or not, they would come under your direct personal domination. You would know what they were thinking at any given time. No one, not even the sharpest human, could hide a thing from you. Others might be fooled by their words. *But not you!*

You already know why. You would be able to read their inner-most, hidden thoughts. As clearly as if you were looking at the pages of a book set in type one inch high. Without their ever knowing about it! *Unless you, yourself, told them!*

Dealing with the opposite sex would be a pleasure. Imagine knowing in advance just what to expect from your date or mate. No more guesswork. No more wasted time. No more frustration. *For once, you are boss!*

And watch the money roll in. You could out-negotiate anyone in any business situation. "See-through" sales double-talk straight to the plain facts. No one gets the better of you. *Not when you can read minds!*

Whether you're quoting a price or asking for a raise, you'll never short-change yourself. You'll always know the other party's bottom line. *And get it!*

There's no "gamble" in gambling when you bet on a sure thing. You'll smile when you sit down to play poker or blackjack. When you know the other players' cards, *it is hard to lose!*

When a loved one is far away, you'll be at ease. Merely follow the technique to find out what he or she is feeling and doing. It's a lot *cheaper* than a long-distance telephone call!

This is just the beginning. Day-in and day-out for the rest of your life, you will enjoy using the technique in countless ways. To be happier, richer, more fulfilled.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE IT. YOU RISK NOTHING TO TRY IT!

If you still insist that "it's impossible", consider this: Have you ever said something to someone only to have him reply; "Funny, I was just thinking the very same thing"?

Coincidence? Maybe. Or perhaps you have *unconsciously* used the technique without even being aware of doing so. Now you can consciously engage in true thought communication with valuable knowledge like this:

- **The first key to mind-reading success.**
- **4 ways to reach crystal-clear reception.**
- **Why an angry person's mind is easy to read.**
- **How to secretly verify another's thoughts.**
- **How to read many minds at the same time.**

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YOU ASKED US

Here's the monthly feature which YOU get to write! It's your chance to have a top wrestler answer YOUR question! Only the best questions will be answered—so put on your thinking caps and come up with some good ones! Address your questions—and who you would like to have answer them—to: YOU ASKED US, c/o THE WRESTLER, PO Box 58, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571. Questions will be answered only in this column and at our discretion

Q: "My question is for Kerry Von Erich: I saw the tape of your NWA World title victory over Ric Flair from Texas Stadium. After the match, I saw your brothers Kevin and Mike, and your father enter the ring. I also saw a young boy with them. Was that your brother Chris? I ask because he looks like Kevin. How old is Chris?"—Mary Gallant, Lawrence, MA

A: "That was Chris," Kerry replied. "He's gonna be 15 years old soon. I guess he does look a little bit like Kevin, and once he does some growing he'll look more like him. Maybe he'll wrestle like him someday, too. It was great to have my whole family around that day. It was the happiest day of my life."

Fourteen-year-old Chris Von Erich and his brother Mike.

***

Q: For manager Jimmy Hart: "I thought you had finally gotten rid of Jerry Lawler when Humongous beat him for the Mid-Southern title, but then Lawler won the title back. Do you think you'll ever be able to rid wrestling of Lawler? He's like a bad penny: He just keeps coming back."—Dan Hall, Memphis, TN

A: "I'm trying my best," Hart said. "I'm always scouring the country for new talent. But unfortunately that slimeball Lawler and I have two completely different philosophies on the sport of professional wrestling. If you'll notice, Lawler's two most effective maneuvers, punching a man in the head and his so-called 'patented' fistdrop, are both illegal maneuvers. They're both performed with closed fists. I, on the other hand, train my wrestlers to obey the rules."

***

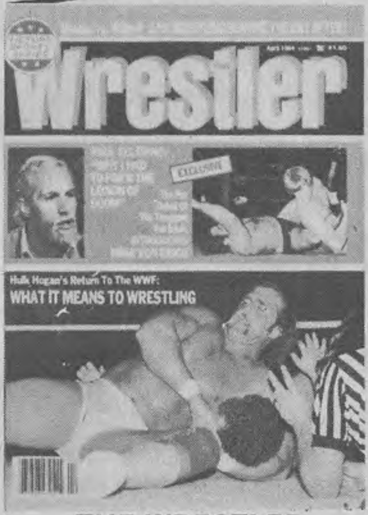
Q: "I have a question for Barry Windham: Are you jealous of all the attention that Billy Jack is getting?"—Darla Feinberg, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

A: "Jealous? No, not at all," Windham said. "Hey, when I first came to Florida to wrestle, everyone went crazy for me. That's what's happening to Billy Jack right now, and he deserves it. For a long time, he was tucked up there in the Pacific Northwest not getting a whole lot of national attention. Now he's in Florida and I think it's great that everyone is talking about him. He's a good wrestler and a good person. After putting so much effort into wrestling and training, it's a great feeling to know that there are people out there paying attention to what you're doing. Billy must love all the support he's getting from

Barry Windham says that Billy Jack (headlocking Buzz Sawyer) has earned the fans' adoration, and that he is not jealous.

(Continued on page 56)

WRESTLING'S GREATEST SUBSCRIPTION DEAL



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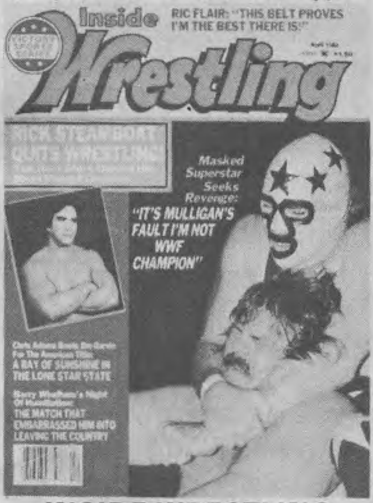

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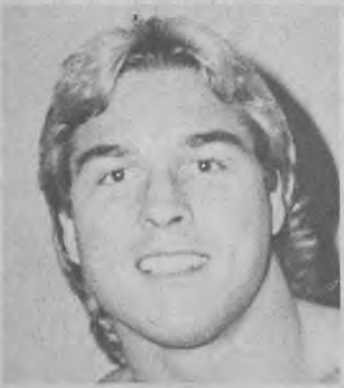
Thumbs Up

Each issue, *The Wrestler* will praise the noteworthy and damn those who violate the honor of wrestling. The praiseworthy receive a Thumbs Up, the disgraceful are marked with a Thumbs Down. Here is this month's roll of honor and shame.

Thumbs Up to Exotic Adrian Street: It seems as if Street, whose outlandish ring wardrobe and blue and gold glitter makeup had long alienated him from the fans, is finally gaining some acceptance from wrestling audiences. It is reported that Street has come to the aid of former enemy Jimmy "Boogie Woogie Man" Valiant in a number of situations where Valiant has been the victim of a double-teaming attack by Kamala and The Assassin. Despite Street's exotic nature, he is a well-trained, highly skilled wrestler whose knowledge of the sport should be appreciated by the fans.

Thumbs Up to Ronnie Garvin: "The Man With the Hands of Stone" has proven that he is capable of challenging the best. In Baltimore, Garvin turned in a masterful performance in an NWA World heavyweight title match against Ric Flair. Although Garvin lost the bout, he came very close to pinning Flair on a number of occasions. At the end of the match, Flair needed to resort to blatantly illegal tactics to win the match. Garvin's performance earned him the praise of the wrestling community and, hopefully, future shots at Flair's title.

Thumbs Up to Dusty Rhodes: "The American Dream" has once again demonstrated his determination, his will, and commitment to his friends by filling in for the injured Billy Jack in a number of matches against Superstar Billy Graham. Graham, with help from his manager, Sir Oliver Humperdink, and One Man Gang, attacked Billy Jack after an arm-wrestling contest, breaking the former Florida champion's wrist. Rhodes has been instructed by Billy Jack on the application of the full-nelson, and will wrestle against Graham in a series of contests that, by contractual stipulation, can only be won with that finishing hold.



Thumbs Up to Terry Taylor: Without much attention from the press, Taylor a gutsy 219-pounder from Vero Beach, Florida, is fighting his own war against wrestling's Russian invasion. Taylor has been feuding with Nikolai Volkoff and his American sympathizer Krusher Khrushchev for the past five months. Despite the fact that Volkoff and Khrushchev have tremendous size advantages over Taylor, he has performed magnificently. Taylor has, in fact, cleared the ring of both men in a number of contests where he has been the victim of double-teaming. Taylor should be commended for his fine effort.

Thumbs Down

Thumbs Down to Roddy Piper: "Piper's Pit," a three-minute interview segment seen on WWF broadcasts, has become nothing more than an opportunity for Piper to berate and belittle WWF fan favorites and to compliment fellow rulebreakers and his own wrestlers. In one segment, Piper insulted Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka and Snuka's homeland, the Fiji Islands. Snuka remained calm throughout this so-called interview. Finally, Piper took a banana and rubbed it in Snuka's face. Snuka became enraged, ripped down the "Piper's Pit" set, and chased Piper out of the studio. The WWF should fire Piper and replace him with a competent journalist.

Thumbs Down to Wahoo McDaniel: McDaniel may be a perennial star of the sport, but he has fallen from grace with the Mid-Atlantic fans after a television appearance in which he stood idly by while Tully Blanchard attacked Wahoo's friend, NWA World champion Ric Flair. After the incident, McDaniel was asked why he didn't assist his friend. His response shocked the fans. McDaniel complained that he had never been offered a title shot by Flair or U.S. champion Rick Steamboat, and he felt he owed Flair nothing. McDaniel might well get those opportunities, but now they will be grudge matches.

Thumbs Down to Kevin Sullivan: The Satan-worshipping Sullivan has been appearing at ringside during Mike Davis' matches, attempting to hypnotize the young grappler. It is assumed that if Sullivan is successful, Davis will fall under his control, as Jake Roberts, Mark Lewin, Hacksaw Duggan, Kharma, and Buzz Sawyer have in the past. Wrestling has seen many new techniques and tactics over the years, and, after a period of adjustment, the sport has managed to adapt to them. Playing with a man's mind, however, can have far greater effects than any wrestling hold. Sullivan must be stopped.

Thumbs Down to Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie: After the $100,000 battle royal at the St. Paul Civic Center in Minnesota, Al-Kaissie instructed his two new proteges, Abdullah the Butcher and Bruiser Brody, to attack the winner of the event, Al-Kaissie's other protege, Crusher Blackwell. Brody and Abdullah double-teamed Blackwell viciously. Al-Kaissie then joined the slaughter, hitting Blackwell with the cast he was wearing on his right arm. The ties between Al-Kaissie and Blackwell are now broken, and the Sheik should be damned for his treatment of Blackwell, the man who brought him his first success as a wrestling manager. □

BACK ISSUES OF Inside Wrestling

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July 1974/Stories include: Garea, Zbyszko, Heenan, Strongbow.

August 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Sheik, Albano, Ladd.

September 1974/Stories include: Sammartino, Graham, Brooks, Bruiser.

November 1974/Stories include: Garvins, Mascaras, Sammartino, Graham.

April 1975/Stories include: Heenan, Grahams, Morales, Gagne.

June 1975/Stories include: Sammartino, Abdullah, LeDuc, Brisco.

August 1975/Stories include: Valentine, Garea, Rhodes, Sammartino.

September 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Funk, Valiants, Gagne.

October 1975/Stories include: Graham, Strongbow, Andersons, Von Erich.

January 1976/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Ladd, Putski.

February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Lewin, Brazil.

March 1976/Stories include: Ladd, Funk, Sheik, Robinson.

April 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Albano, Flair, Brisco.

June 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Bockwinkel, Flair, Mascaras.

August 1976/Stories include: Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.

September 1976/Stories include: Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.

October 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.

November 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.

December 1976/Stories include: Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.

January 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.

May 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Sheik, Race.

July 1977/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, LeDuc, Patera.

August 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.

September 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.

October 1977/Stories include: Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.

November 1977/Stories include: Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.

December 1977/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maivia.

February 1978/Stories include: Flair, Andre, Koloff, Johnson.

March 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.

April 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.

May 1978/Stories include: Race, Putski, Von Erich, Andre.

August 1978/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Andre, Hansen.

October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.

November 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.

December 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.

JULY 1982

January 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.

February 1979/Stories include: Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.

April 1979/Stories include: Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.

June 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.

July 1979/Stories include: Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.

August 1979/Stories include: Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.

September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.

October 1979/Stories include: Rich, Rhodes, Backlund, Putski.

February 1980/Stories include: Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.

March 1980/Stories include: Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.

April 1980/Stories include: Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.

May 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.

June 1980/Stories include: Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.

July 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Von Erich, Superstar, Blassie.

August 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.

September 1980/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.

November 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.

January 1981/Stories include: Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.

February 1981/Stories include: Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.

April 1981/Stories include: Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.

May 1981/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.

June 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.

September 1981/Stories include: Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.

January 1982/Stories include: Flair, Hogan, Race, Humperdink.

February 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.

March 1982/Stories include: Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.

April 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

June 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.

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August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.

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November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

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February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.

May 1983/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.

June 1983/Stories include: Studd, Garvin, Rogers, Orton.

July 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.

August 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.

September 1983/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.

October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.

November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.

January 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Rich, Superstar, Piper.

February 1984/Stories include: Abdullah, Sawyers, Valiant, Von Erich.

March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.

April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.

May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.

June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.

August 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.

September 1984/Stories include: Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.

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☐ JULY 74	☐ JULY 77	☐ SEPT 79	☐ MAY 82	☐ MAR 84
☐ AUG 74	☐ AUG 77	☐ OCT 79	☐ JUNE 82	☐ APR 84
☐ SEPT 74	☐ SEPT 77	☐ FEB 80	☐ JULY 82	☐ MAY 84
☐ NOV 74	☐ OCT 77	☐ MAR 80	☐ AUG 82	☐ JUNE 84
☐ APR 75	☐ NOV 77	☐ APR 80	☐ SEPT 82	☐ JULY 84
☐ JUNE 75	☐ DEC 77	☐ MAY 80	☐ OCT 82	☐ AUG 84
☐ AUG 75	☐ FEB 78	☐ JUNE 80	☐ NOV 82	☐ SEPT 84
☐ SEPT 75	☐ MAR 78	☐ JULY 80	☐ DEC 82	
☐ OCT 75	☐ APR 78	☐ AUG 80	☐ FEB 83	
☐ JAN 76	☐ MAY 78	☐ SEPT 80	☐ MAR 83	
☐ FEB 76	☐ AUG 78	☐ NOV 80	☐ APR 83	
☐ MAR 76	☐ OCT 78	☐ JAN 81	☐ MAY 83	
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☐ JUNE 76	☐ DEC 78	☐ APR 81	☐ JULY 83	
☐ AUG 76	☐ JAN 79	☐ MAY 81	☐ AUG 83	
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December 1975/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, McDaniel, Blackjacks.

January 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Wrestling II, Rhodes.

February 1976/Stories include: Andre, Sammartino, Rhodes, Valentine.

March 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Putski, Lawler.

June 1976/Stories include: Mascaras, Putski, Patera, Bruiser.

July 1976/Stories include: Andre, Wrestling II, Inoki, Von Erich.

November 1976/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Valentine, Mosca.

January 1977/Stories include: Brody, Andre, Wrestling II, Mascaras.

February 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Jones, Funk, Von Raschke.

April 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Funk, Flair, Bockwinkel.

May 1977/Stories include: Mascaras, Valiants, Andersons, Sammartino.

June 1977/Stories include: Patera, Putski, Hernandez, McDaniel.

July 1977/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Rocca, Mascaras.

October 1977/Stories include: Rhodes, Sammartino, Flair, Snuka.

November 1977/Stories include: Sammartino, Slater, Mascaras, Snuka.

March 1978/Stories include: Graham, Flair, Rich, Patera.

MAY 1977

September 1978/Stories include: Rhodes, Grahams, Andre, Mascaras.

October 1978/Stories include: Sammartino, Backlund, McDaniel, Race.

November 1978/Stories include: Flair, Andre, Ladd, Graham.

December 1978/Stories include: Brisco, Mulligan, Andre, Blanchard.

February 1979/Stories include: Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.

March 1979/Stories include: Sammartino, Backlund, Rhodes, Maivia.

May 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.

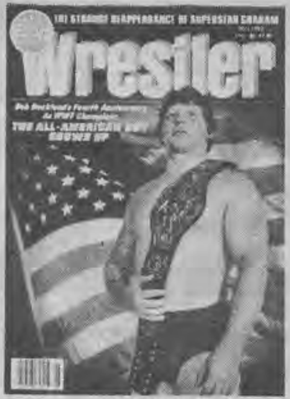
July 1979/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Sammartino, Andre.

August 1979/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Patera, Stevens, Superstar.

September 1979/Stories include: Steamboat, Graham, Piper, Mascaras.

October 1979/Stories include: Flair, Valentine, Santana, Muraco.

December 1979/Stories include: Andre, Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras.



MAY 1982

January 1980/Stories include: Race, Backlund, Snuka, Brisco.

February 1980/Stories include: Andre, Flair, DiBiase, Superstar.

March 1980/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.

April 1980/Stories include: Rhodes, DiBiase, Youngblood, Wrestling II.

May 1980/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.

June 1980/Stories include: Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.

August 1980/Stories include: Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

September 1980/Stories include: Ladd, Patera, Steamboat, Gagne.

October 1980/Stories include: Patera, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Morales.

November 1980/Stories include: Rich, Hogan, Snuka, Super Destroyers.

January 1981/Stories include: Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.

February 1981/Stories include: Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.

May 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, DiBiase, Moondogs.

June 1981/Stories include: Sammartino, Piper, Rich, Martel.

July 1981/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Flair, Atlas.

August 1981/Stories include: DiBiase, Slaughter, Martel, Idol.

October 1981/Stories include: Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.

December 1981/Stories include: Rhodes, Steele, Race, Hogan.

January 1982/Stories include: Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.

March 1982/Stories include: Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.

April 1982/Stories include: Brisco, Armstrongs, Valentine, Santana.

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Von Erich, Graham, Rich.

June 1982/Stories include: Steamboat, Reed, Albano, Piper.

July 1982/Stories include: Rich, Sawyer, Flair, Steamboat.

August 1982/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Mulligans, Piper.

September 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

October 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.

December 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

January 1983/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.

March 1983/Stories include: Piper, Reed, Valiant, Roberts.

April 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.

May 1983/Stories include: Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorff.

June 1983/Stories include: Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.

July 1983/Stories include: Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.

August 1983/Stories include: Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.

September 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Briscos.

October 1983/Stories include: Race, Sawyer, Briscos, Bass.

November 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Santana, Von Erichs, Kabuki.

December 1983/Stories include: Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.

January 1984/Stories include: Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.

February 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Hogan, Rich, Andre.

March 1984/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.

April 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.

May 1984/Stories include: Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.

June 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Billy Jack, Flair, Armstrong.

July 1984/Stories include: Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.

August 1984/Stories include: Garvin, Sullivan, Freebirds, Street.

September 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.

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INTRODUCING THE MISSING LINK

He is an awesome wrestling machine, a frightening combination of speed, strength, agility, and raw animal instinct. Nobody knows where he came from or how he developed his bizarre wrestling style. Nobody, that is, except his manager, Gen. Skandor Akbar—and he isn't talking!

HIS FACE IS painted a bilious shade of green, accented by the bright blue makeup around his eyes.

He grunts and snarls as he slams Junkyard Dog to the mat and turns toward the corner of the ring.

Over 43,000 fans in Texas Stadium scream in awe and wonderment as he makes his way to the top rope, grabs his own hair from behind, and hurls himself recklessly at a fallen JYD with no regard whatsoever for his own safety.

This is simply one unusual moment in the unusual life of a most unusual wrestler: The Missing Link.

Little is known about The Missing Link, except that he weighs 273 pounds—most of it pure muscle—and he is managed by Gen. Skandor Akbar.

When *The Wrestler* contacted Akbar regarding the personal history of The Missing Link, the manager revealed practically no information about his charge. But his self-conscious effort to hide The Missing Link's background indicated that the story behind the man may be even stranger than the man himself.

"The Missing Link is very, very unusual," Akbar told *The Wrestler*, "and I am proud to have him as a member of Devastation Incorporated. He is an extremely diabolical competitor with no sense of his own well being, the kind of a man I like to have in my stable. Many people who have seen Max in action have questioned his sanity, and in fact they are correct to do so."

Akbar has been calling The Missing Link by the name "Max" for several months, though there are as many observers of the World Class wrestling scene who doubt that Max is The Missing Link's real name.

"Let me tell you something about Max," Akbar continued. "It is a medically proven fact that

(Continued on page 20)

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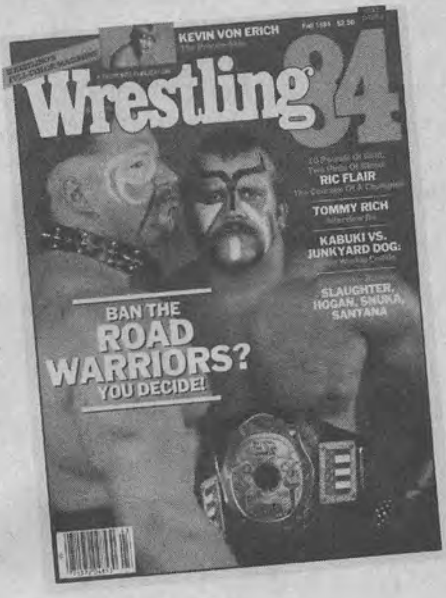

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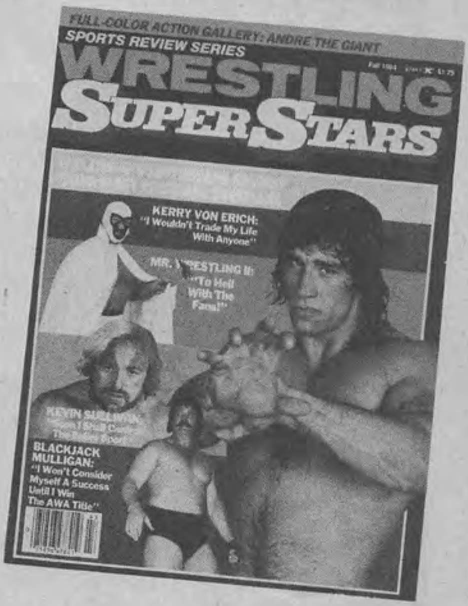

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(Continued from page 18)

Tugging on his own hair, Missing Link leaps from the turnbuckles at his prone opponent.

Max has the hardest head in the sport. Medically proven! I've had him in to see all kinds of orthopedic specialists, and they all agree: Max's head is of a type that is a throwback to an earlier stage of *Homo sapiens'* evolution. That is only a part of the reason for his incredible success in the ring."

Indeed, The Missing Link will often pull his own hair during a match in such as fashion as to accentuate the angle and force with which his forehead, in itself adorned by a single thick tuft of hair, strikes an opponent.

"Max is tremendously superfit," Akbar says proudly. "He may not know how to recite a Shakespearean sonnet, but he knows how train and build up his physique. In Devastation Incorporated, I'm dealing with individuals who can be honed to perfection as pure wrestling machines. Max is a wrestling machine."

That may be overstating the case just a little bit. While The Missing Link is certainly capable of drawing upon a complete catalogue of scientific maneuvers, he is clearly a brawler at heart. He would much prefer to use the ringside steps on an opponent than use the figure-four leglock. If an opponent is going to compete seriously with The Missing Link, he's going to have to do so on The Missing Link's own level.

"The only thing I could do was bring a chair into the ring," said Junkyard Dog following his match with Link on the "Parade of Champions" card in Texas Stadium on May 6. "I tried to wrestle him, and I got to give him his due, he's strong, he's slippery as a snake, and he's a tough man to get a hold of. He slips out of a hold quickly, and the next thing you know he's all over you like white on rice. But I'll tell you, he caught me with that head of his and *whooeee*—is it something! Like being hit with a sledgehammer!

"You can't wrestle something like that," JYD continued, "leastways when he's throwing chairs into the ring. So I just took one of those chairs and clocked him one. Hey, brother—he wants a brawl, I'll give it to him!"

And Akbar stands in Link's corner and smiles. The Missing Link destroys another opponent, and Akbar smiles. The Missing Link grabs his own hair and smashes his opponent in the head, and Akbar smiles.

But ask Akbar about Link's past once again, and the smile disappears to reveal only anger, and a phrase that has become cliche where information about The Missing Link is concerned:

"None of your business," Akbar barks. "Any more information about Max is none of your damn business! You don't need to know anything about him, except what he can do in the ring. He's got to be seen to be believed!"

And what he can do in the ring is nothing short of phenomenal. In this sense, Akbar is correct: The Missing Link has got to be seen to be believed. □

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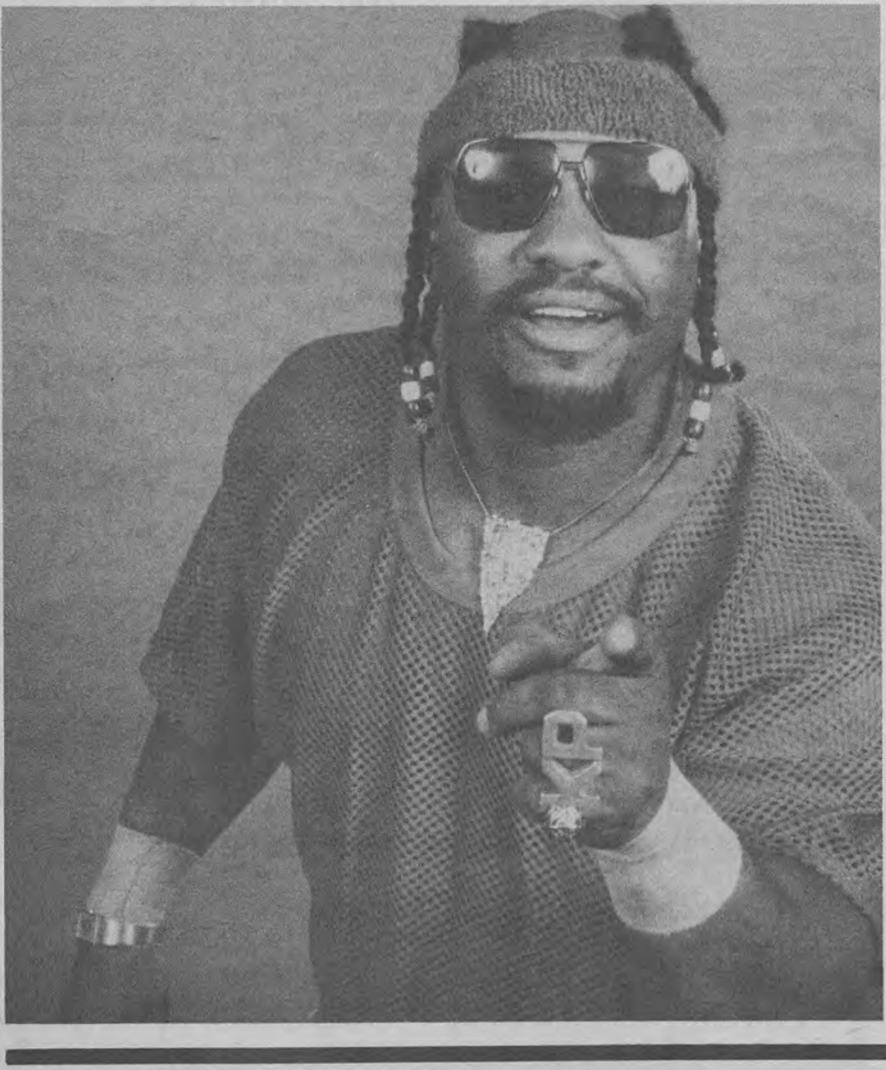
Q&A

Each month, *The Wrestler* will present a "Question and Answer" forum with an important figure in the wrestling world. It is your chance to meet wrestling's biggest stars as they answer the questions uppermost in the fans' minds



Q: You look like you're more than ready to answer some questions.

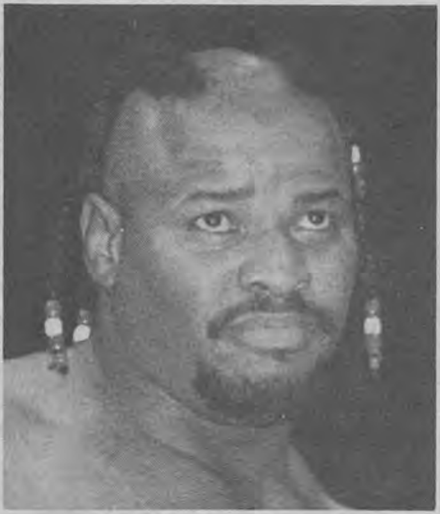
A: **Sure ya right, sure ya right. I'm ready to answer all your questions, I'm ready to talk to my fans through your great magazine. You know, I read it all the time. I rush down to the newsstand every month and grab the first copy of *The Wrestler* I see. Once I was so excited about seeing it there, I picked up the last month's magazine by accident, and I had already bought one.**

Q: Well, it's good to know you enjoy reading the magazine.

A: **I sure do, I love it, especially when I'm on the inside. Go ahead, I'm all yours.**

Q: Okay. You and Buck Zumhofe defeated Skandor Akbar's Super Destroyers in Texas Stadium in front of more than 43,000 fans to take the World Class tag team belts. But two weeks later, you lost them back to the Super Destroyers. Now that you've had some time to think about it, how can you explain the loss?

A: **There's a really fine explanation for all that and his name is Gen. Skandor Akbar, man. I wonder what army would actually take him on as a general anyway. Akbar's the reason we lost the belts. He's the sneakiest little—well, I wouldn't say it in a magazine, so we'll just leave it like that. Those**



ICEMAN KING PARSONS

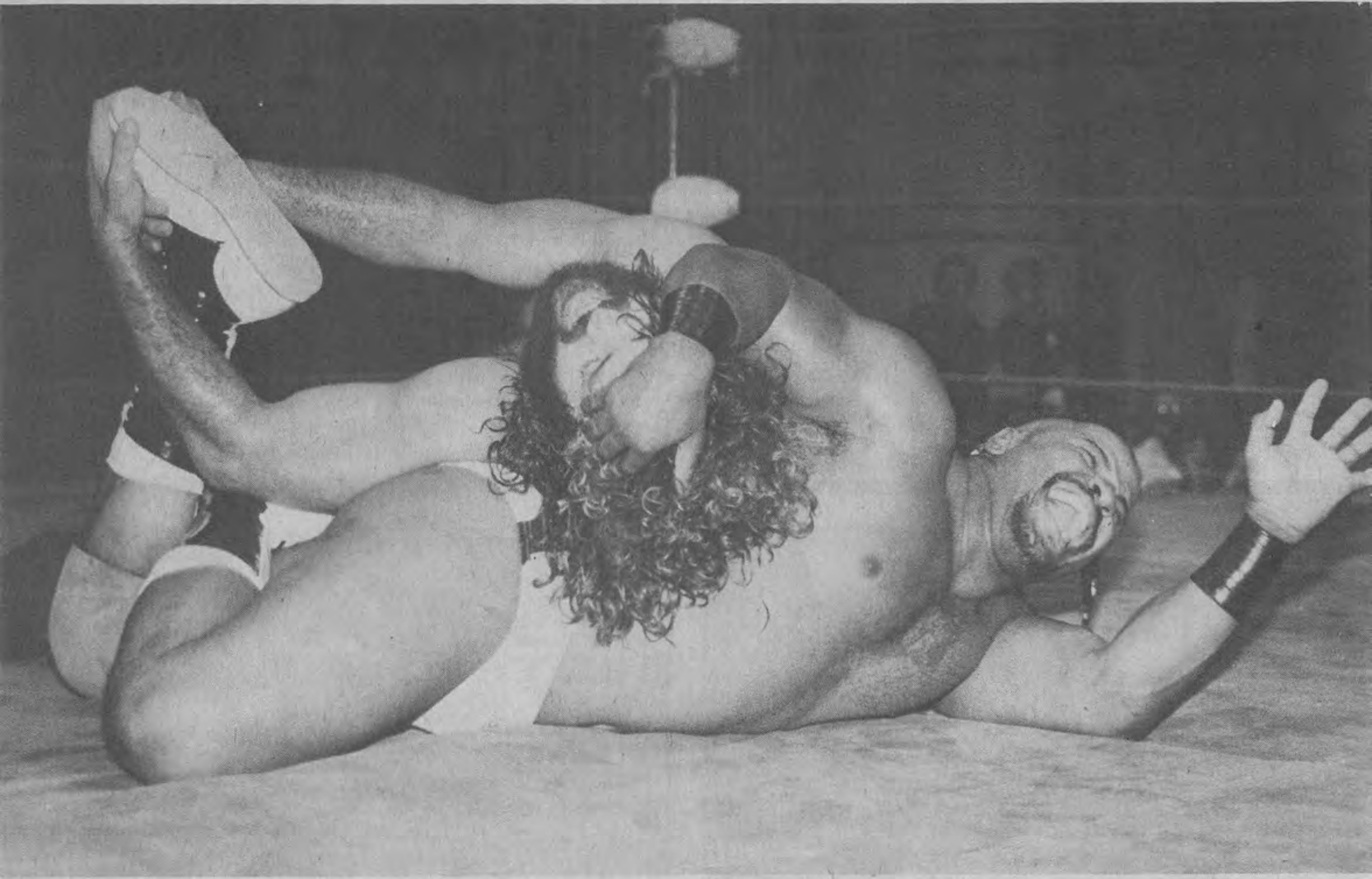
They call him the "Iceman" because he has a way of cooling off the momentum of his opponents. Watching King Parsons wrestle now, it is hard to remember that his career didn't heat up until he arrived in the Texas World Class area last year. There was something lacking in Parsons' performances when he wrestled in the Mid-Atlantic region. It was not a physical thing; he didn't suddenly learn how to wrestle. It was all mental. Parsons came to the World Class area with a new outlook on the sport and on himself. The 242-pounder, who grew up in poverty in a St. Louis urban housing project, quickly became more popular and successful than he had ever dreamed possible. Parsons has held the World Class tag team championship on two occasions, the first time with Brian Adidas, and more recently with Buck Zumhofe. Parsons and Zumhofe defeated the masked Super Destroyers to win the World Class tag team titles, only to lose them back shortly thereafter. In the losing effort, however, Parsons and Zumhofe did manage to unmask the Super Destroyers, revealing Bill and Hoss Irwin. Parsons discusses his career with Assistant Editor Joseph Bua.

Parsons delivers a forearm to the chest of a Super Destroyer, who is held in place by Zumhofe (above left). The Iceman brings his foot down on Super D's kneecap (above right). Parsons tries to keep his pin attempt away from the ropes (below).

Irwin boys, they ain't nothin' special. But they got that Akbar with 'em, and that's what made them champions.

Q: After you lost the belts, you got their masks off, revealing their identities. Did you plan on doing that, or did that just come out of the frustration of losing the title?

A: **Well, you're right when you say frustrated, 'cause we *were* frustrated. Man, it is so hard to keep goin' in a match when you got a guy like Akbar interfering all the time, especially when he does it behind the referee's back. Buck and I just went after them after the**

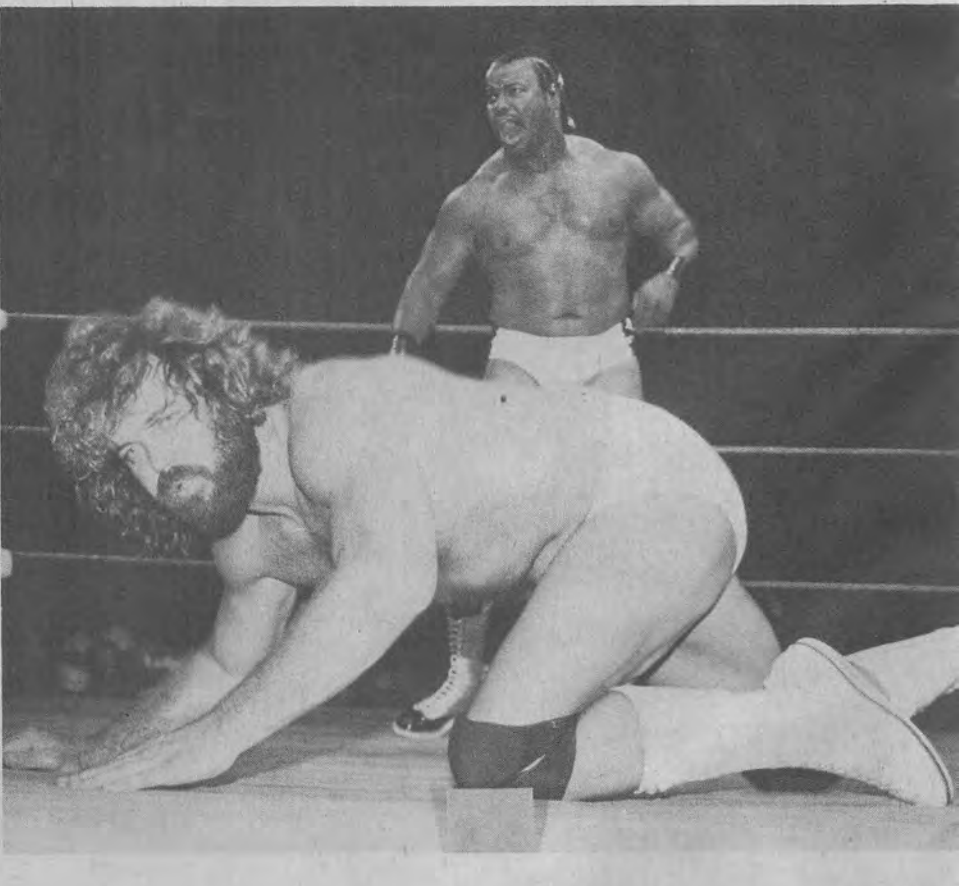


Parsons can escape Jim Garvin's overlapping toehold by pulling the hair, but he will endure the pain a few seconds longer and find a legal means of escape (above). The Iceman seeks the fans' approval before pursuing his foe (below). Of course, he receives it.

match. We didn't plan it or anything, if that's what you're asking. And when we got those masks off their heads, they ran away like chickens, covering their faces. I got news for them. No one wants to look at their faces anyway.

Q: When you lost the belt the first time with Brian Adidas, he left the area. Do you have any fear of Zumhofe leaving World Class now that you've lost the title?

A: My man Buck? Like they say in the service, he's in for the duration. Buck told me that as long as I needed a partner, he would be there for me. Buck is my man. He's devoted to the cause. I have never met a white man with so much soul, never in my life. We're gonna get those straps back where they belong as soon as those Irwin boys stop running from us. They're afraid. They know that "Rock 'n' Soul" is the most powerful combi-



nation around.

Q: Iceman, you've come a long way since those days in the Mid-Atlantic when you were just plain old King Parsons. You didn't have the cornrows or the music, and you were wrestling in preliminary matches and not really getting anywhere. What do you think made the change? What happened that turned you into the Iceman?

A: I changed my life. I changed the way I was thinking about everything. I used to go into the ring thinking the worst. Now I jump up on the ring apron, I dance to my favorite song, "We Are Family" by Sister Sledge, and I don't think the worst. I expect the best. When I get in that ring, I know that I'm gonna win. I have no doubts, not a one. That's the difference. That's the whole reason behind my success. It's all up here. Not in the beads in my braids, not in the cornrows, but in my mind. You gotta have it up here, or else it doesn't matter what else you have. You could have 30-inch arms and you could bench press a Greyhound bus, but if you don't believe that you're number one, you're nowhere.

Q: One more question.

A: Just one more?

Q: We have a space limit.

A: Well, okay, but make it a good one.

Q: What's a good question? What would you ask youself?

A: I would ask myself, "Iceman? You're so pretty and you're so cool. How do you think you'd look with the NWA World championship around your waist?"

Q: And what's the answer to that question?

A: The answer is that I would look so fine that they'd have to drag me away from the mirror to get in the ring! *Hahahaha.* No. Really, that's what I want. I want to be the World champion. I want to be the best. And as long as I'm the best in my head, I can be the best in the world. □

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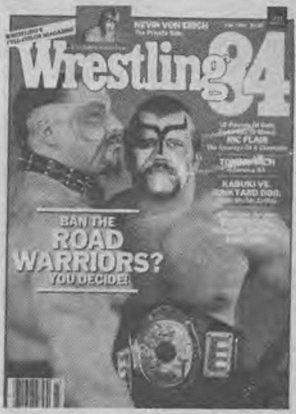

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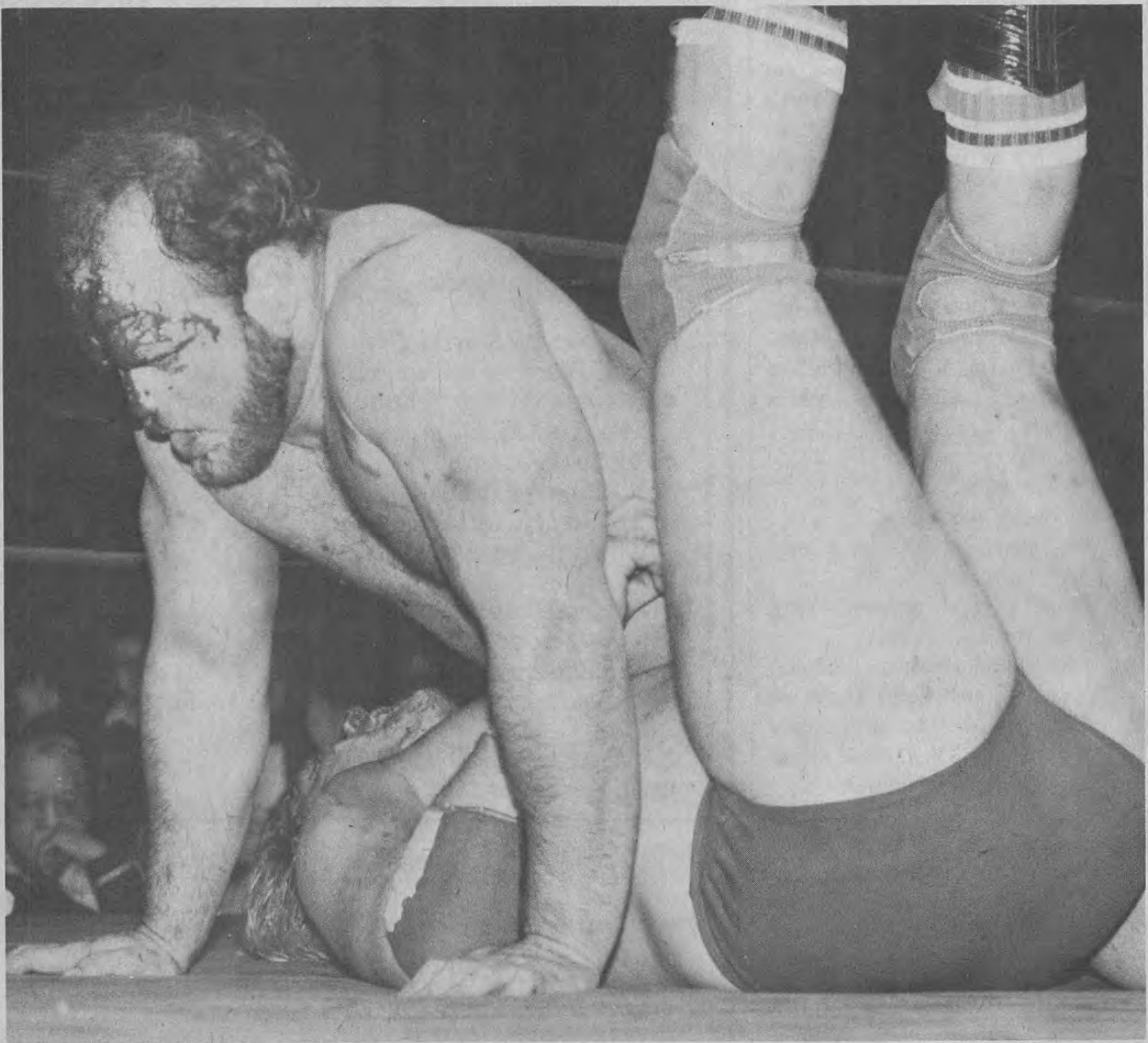
THE WRESTLER PANEL EXAMINES

BUZZ SAWYER

Each month THE WRESTLER'S panel of experts will offer their candid opinions of one of wrestling's stars. Whether an up-and- coming youngster or an established superstar in his own right, our panel will always be frank and honest without fear of reprisal



Whether he chooses to wrestle according to the rules or he is savaging an opponent illegally, Buzz Sawyer seems to have an unlimited source of energy. He is powerful, he is knowledgeable, and he possesses an overwhelming desire to succeed. But just how much control does he have over his destiny when he can be so heavily influenced by such a wide variety of men as his brother Brett, Kevin Sullivan, and Lou Albano? That could be the key to his future.

BRUNO SAMMARTINO

"I can't believe the things this man does in the ring. I turned on my television set the other day, and I saw this Buzz Sawyer crawling around the ring and barking like a dog. Now, I've heard that he has a great deal of talent, but with him carrying on so much, you don't notice it. Doggone it, these things shouldn't be going on in the ring. If he did that before a match with me, I'd kick him like a dog."

Bruno Sammartino is known as wrestling's "Living Legend." He is the most-popular wrestler to ever hold the WWF title.

VERNE GAGNE

"I've never appreciated Buzz Sawyer's wrestling style: He's overly aggressive, he gets too emotional, he let's his feelings get the best of him when it would be more important to keep a cool head and concentrate on the basics. I thought there was some hope for him when he started teaming with his brother, Brett, but now he's back to rulebreaking. I expected that."

Verne Gagne held the AWA title a record 11 times. He was named "Best Scientific Wrestler" of the last 25 years.

GENE KINISKI

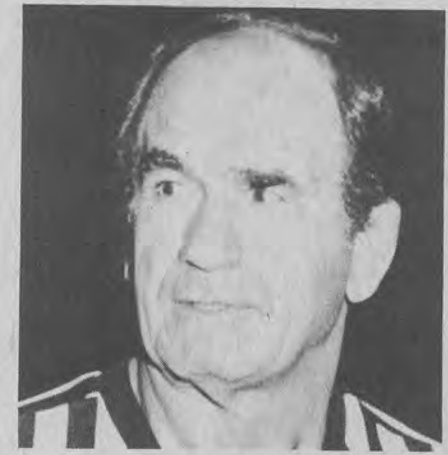
"Ya know that beer commercial that says 'Go for the Gusto'? That's what Buzz Sawyer does every time he steps in the ring. He digs his feet in and he goes for the gusto. I admire that in a man. I like to watch Buzz Sawyer wrestle because he turns his brain off and lets his emotions take over. He had a small lapse for a while in Georgia when he was playing fan favorite, but that's over now. Sawyer's a talented wrestler."

Gene Kiniski is a rugged Canadian who was NWA World champion in the late 1960s.

BUDDY ROGERS

"I'm disappointed in Buzz Sawyer. I thought when he admitted that Brett was his brother and he started wrestling rulebreakers that he was going to start putting his talents to good use. But I noticed that even though he was wrestling rulebreakers, his tactics in the ring never changed. His wrestling philosophy was still 'do anything to win.' Maybe he forgot how to wrestle scientifically."

Buddy Rogers is the only man to hold both the NWA World title and the WWF title.



LOU THESZ

"If I had my druthers and I was the president of a wrestling federation, I would ban wrestlers like Buzz Sawyer from competing. Sawyer makes a mockery of professional wrestling, which is supposed to be a noble sport, 'The King of Sports.' He acts like an animal, and he wrestles like one, so I think he should be treated like one. He should be put in a cage and locked in. Wrestling doesn't need Buzz Sawyer."

Lou Thesz held the NWA World title six times during his fabulous 50-year career. Many consider him the greatest all-round wrestler in history.

EDDIE GRAHAM

"Sawyer just left Florida to go to the WWF. The second he got here, he fell into the hands of Kevin Sullivan. He'd let Sullivan drag him around on a dog chain. He'd bark and crawl around the ring. He seems to be really good at following orders, and he's very easily influenced, but he can't stand on his own. Now Lou Albano has him. I don't think Sawyer can exist without someone telling him what to do."

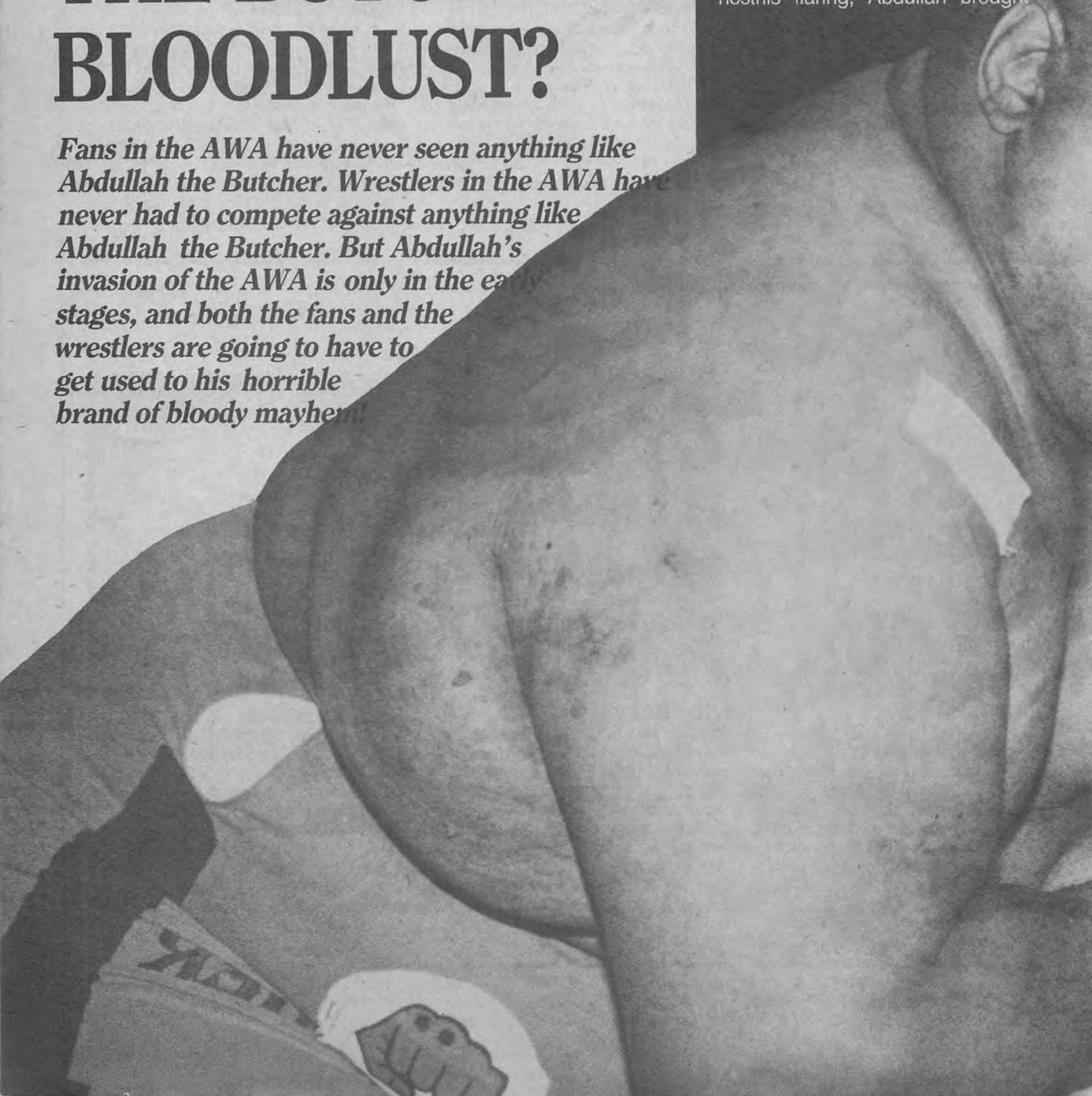
Eddie Graham is a former co-holder of the World tag team title, and was a top contender for the NWA World title for more than 20 years.

CAN THE AWA SATISFY ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER'S BLOODLUST?

Fans in the AWA have never seen anything like Abdullah the Butcher. Wrestlers in the AWA have never had to compete against anything like Abdullah the Butcher. But Abdullah's invasion of the AWA is only in the early stages, and both the fans and the wrestlers are going to have to get used to his horrible brand of bloody mayhem!

ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER grabbed the timekeeper's bell and ripped it away from the ringside table to which it was attached. Opponents Blackjack Mulligan and Blackjack Lanza, and even Abdullah's partner for the tag team match, his manager Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie, stared in open-mouthed wonderment at what was happening.

Raising the steel bell above his head, Abdullah let out a terrifying scream. His eyes bulging and nostrils flaring, Abdullah brought



the bell crashing down on his own head. The wound that had been opened by Mulligan and Lanza during the match was opened even wider.

Blood was trickling down Abdullah's face as his eyes widened in anticipation—he was preparing to smash himself in the head once again with the bell. Abdullah let out a second blood-curdling scream. In a ghastly display of masochistic frenzy, Abdullah smashed himself in the head more brutally than before.

The trickle from the wound became a steady flow, and Abdullah stuck his tongue out of his mouth to taste his own blood. Ringside fans recoiled in disgust. Mulligan and Lanza turned away in revulsion and went back to their dressing rooms.

And Al-Kaissie was left to deal with the horror he had unleashed upon the AWA—and himself. For being Abdullah the Butcher's manager is not one of the easier tasks in professional wrestling. Indeed, one would have to wonder at this point whether Al-Kaissie doesn't regret his decision to bring Abdullah into the AWA.

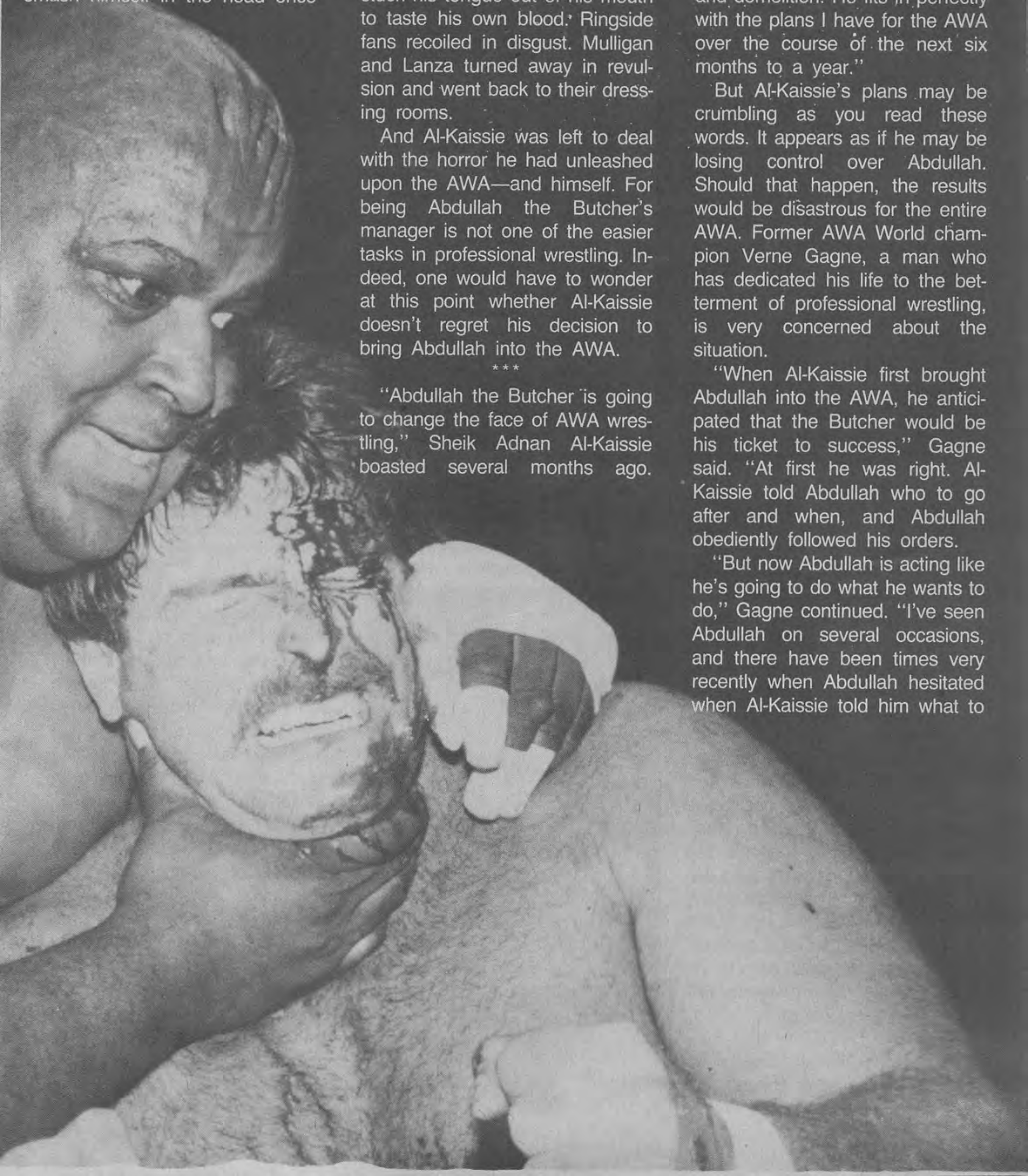
***

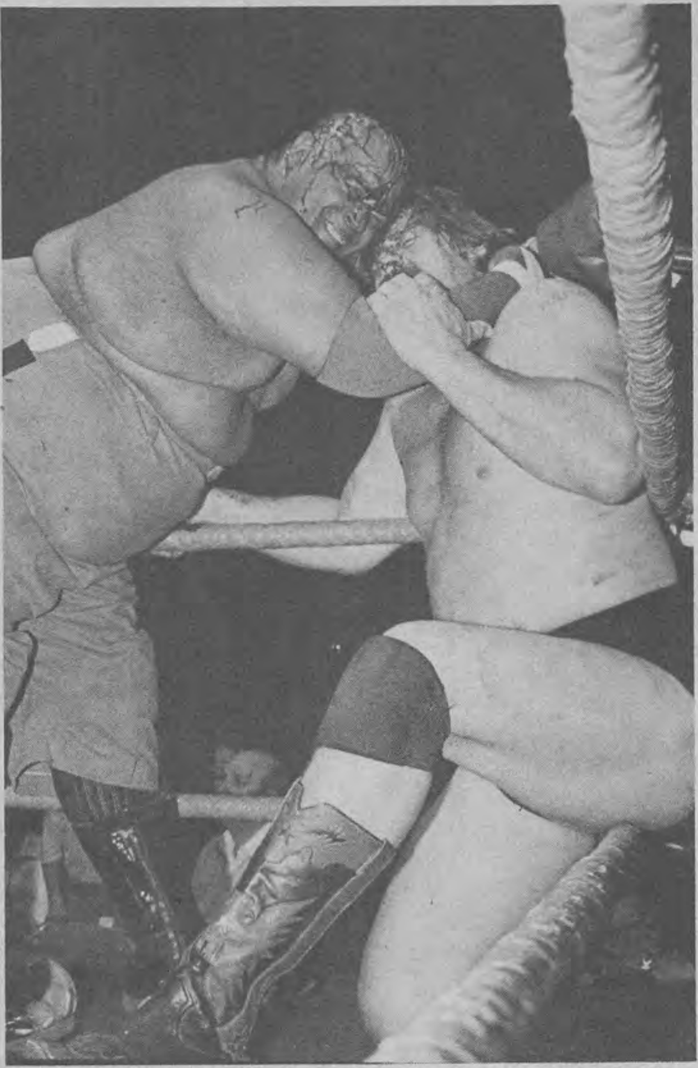
"Abdullah the Butcher is going to change the face of AWA wrestling," Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie boasted several months ago. "Many of these little weasels here, weaklings like Greg Gagne, Brad Rheingans, and Rick Martel, have never faced a man possessing even half the destructive power and explosive fury that Abdullah possesses. He is a man capable of unspeakable violence and demolition. He fits in perfectly with the plans I have for the AWA over the course of the next six months to a year."

But Al-Kaissie's plans may be crumbling as you read these words. It appears as if he may be losing control over Abdullah. Should that happen, the results would be disastrous for the entire AWA. Former AWA World champion Verne Gagne, a man who has dedicated his life to the betterment of professional wrestling, is very concerned about the situation.

"When Al-Kaissie first brought Abdullah into the AWA, he anticipated that the Butcher would be his ticket to success," Gagne said. "At first he was right. Al-Kaissie told Abdullah who to go after and when, and Abdullah obediently followed his orders.

"But now Abdullah is acting like he's going to do what he wants to do," Gagne continued. "I've seen Abdullah on several occasions, and there have been times very recently when Abdullah hesitated when Al-Kaissie told him what to





Abdullah butchers the following: Baron Von Raschke (top left), Raymond Rougeau (left and below), and Blackjack Mulligan (above). Can anyone in the AWA stop him?

do. It's a dangerous situation."

Even Bobby Heenan, manager of former AWA World champion Nick Bockwinkel, has his doubts about Abdullah.

"Al-Kaissie is a gambling man," Heenan said. "He knows that Abdullah is a machine of destruction. But he also knows that if he's able to control that destructive fury, the rewards could be enormous. Personally, I wouldn't take such a managerial risk; Abdullah is too unpredictable. His wrestling style is one of overkill. I've got to give Al-Kaissie a lot of credit, though: He's got guts. He's taking a big gamble, but it may very well pay off in the long run."

***

Gentleman Jim Holliday managed Abdullah the Butcher for several months last year. During that time, Abdullah went on a bloody rampage throughout the state of Florida, a wild spree of violence that included the horribly memorable barbed wire match against Dusty Rhodes in West Palm Beach.

The Wrestler contacted Holliday for his own unique perspective on Abdullah the Butcher.

"I don't have to tell you that he's a strange man," Holliday said. "Never in my life have I come across an individual with such a thirst for blood. It's an obsession with him. He's very handy to have on your side, and if you can control him long enough he'll help you achieve any goal you want.

"But I had to get rid of Abdullah eventually for the same rea-

(Continued on page 52)

King Kong Bundy vs. Jerry Lawler:

HOW JIMMY HART ENGINEERED BUNDY'S RETURN TO TERROR

Photos by Sam Lowe

Though he's a hero around the country, for one night, in Memphis, Tennessee, they hated King Kong Bundy. It was a night Bundy has promised never to forget—and he thanks the Memphis fans for teaching him the most important lesson a wrestler can ever learn

REMORSE IS AN emotion that never seems to suit professional wrestlers. These huge men can't manage an emotion that reduces men: They are too large to be humbled. When a wrestler is remorseful, his physical appearance makes everyone very uncomfortable.

When King Kong Bundy, one of wrestling's true gargantuans, was filled with remose recently, he didn't wear it well. Never before allowing the public to see him like this, Bundy appeared to be caught in some ill-fitting disguise. In an ironic way, there was some justice in that. Bundy's remorse sprang from his inability to convince fans that reality and appearance were two very different things.

As everyone in the country knows, Bundy has recently gained

nationwide fame as a fan favorite. The 420-pounder has proved himself a hero time and time again. Bundy has also discovered he loves being loved by the fans. He assumed that they would follow him anywhere. Based on his questionable background, that was a poor assumption to make.

Bundy's problems began when he received a phone call from Jimmy Hart. At the time, Bundy didn't think there would be any harm in associating himself—temporarily—with the hated Mid-Southern manager. Today, Bundy wishes he hung up on the man as soon as he heard his voice. Instead, he listened to Hart's proposition. The manager offered him a huge sum of money to wrestle Jerry Lawler. It never occurred to him that the fans in Memphis would adore Lawler the way they do. Anyone battling against the Memphis fans' hero would be hated. Bundy, figuring the Tennessee fans had seen him on television and knew he was trustworthy, assumed they'd be in his corner. It was, Bundy admitted later, the biggest and most heartbreaking mistake of his life.

Hart knew the fans would be against Bundy, and he knew how much that would hurt the wrestler. What's more, he correctly guessed that the booing would turn Bundy into a more fearsome grappler. Hart didn't care about Bundy. All he wanted was someone to batter Lawler into insensibility.

The night of the match, Bundy walked into the arena expecting to be cheered. Instead, he was greeted with a salvo of boos and insults. The expression on his face went from shock to hurt to outrage. To make matters worse, Lawler was greeted by adoring cheers. Hurt beyond understanding, Bundy poised for revenge on the fans and Lawler. Hart saw this and couldn't have been happier.

There was nothing in the ensuing battle that dampened Hart's joy. Just as the manager assumed, the boos released Bundy's cruelty, a savage streak that hadn't been seen since Bundy became a fan favorite. What Bundy did in the match was reprehensible. It was also devastating.

It took all of Lawler's abilities to

Bundy wraps his massive arms around Lawler's head (top left). Bundy, whose legs weigh more than the average man, executes a legdrive against the downed Lawler (left). "The King" seems amused by the futility of trying to budge the 420-pounder (above).

survive. Jerry realized this wasn't an athletic contest but a horrible brawl. There was no sense of winning or losing. In this kind of war, you try to inflict more punishment than you give. Lawler, a wily veteran, was able to return dirty move for dirty move. It was a match in which neither man could take pride.

Finally, sickened by the ugly exhibition of wrestling savagery, the referee ordered a double-disqualification. What followed was one of the strangest occurrences to ever happen in a wrestling ring.

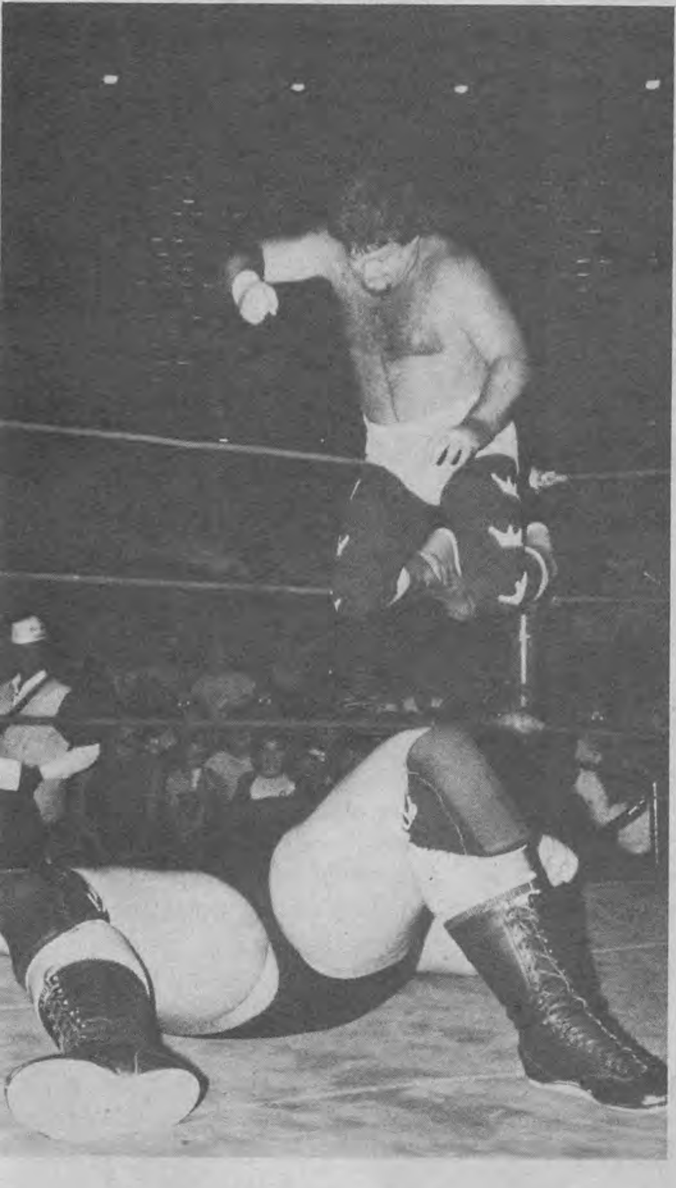
At first, Bundy was enraged; his fury was far from spent. Then his body froze, as if he'd been poleaxed from behind and didn't quite know what hit him. Then this disquieting look of embarrassment contorted his features. As the crowd booed, Bundy looked at them as if begging for forgiveness. His plaintive gaze lasted about five seconds. At the end of those seconds, the crowd was still. It was impossible to boo this gargantuan human who looked as sad as anyone could possibly be. Then Bundy shrugged his shoulders and slinked back to the dressing room. Even Lawler looked stunned at this turn of events.

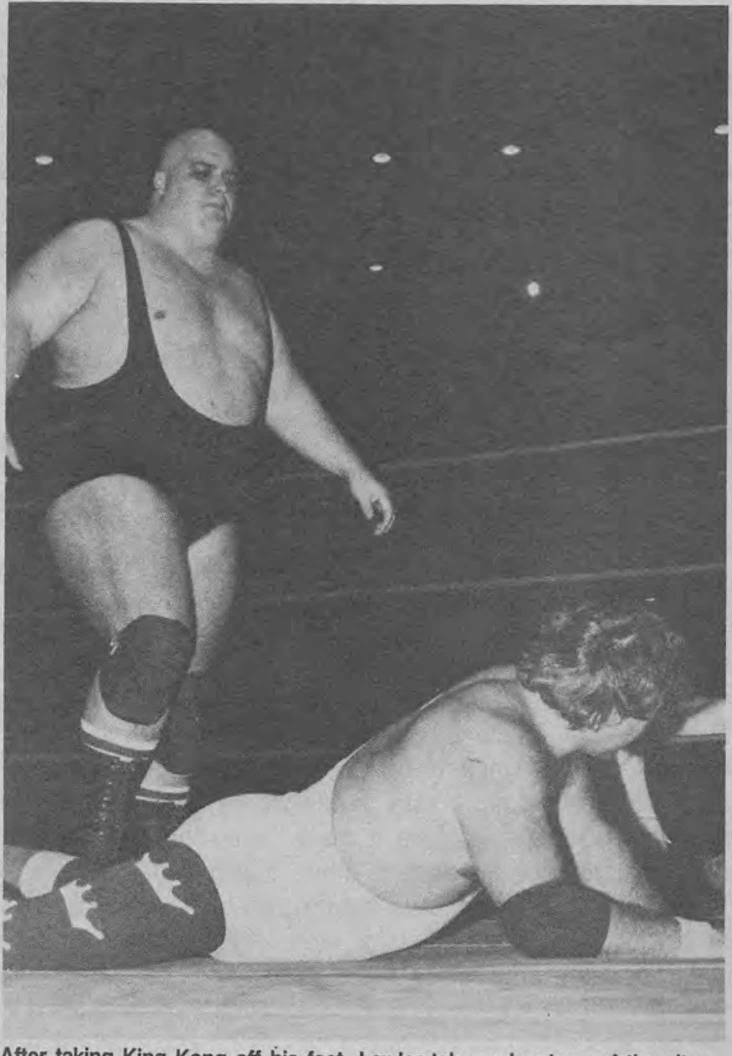
Hart kept his wits about him. He left the arena without talking to Bundy. It didn't take a seer to see what would happen if the devastated Bundy got his hands on Hart. The wily manager didn't care. He'd gotten what he wanted: Lawler battered in a brawl.

The next day, Bundy held a press conference. That's when he looked remorseful and made everyone uncomfortable. During his entire statement, he never once looked at the reporters.

"What I did last night," he read, head down, "was inexcusable. I believed the fans would cheer a man for who he is instead of what he does. I expected blind faith and loyalty; no one should expect or deserve that. They were right to boo me. As my actions showed, I didn't earn any respect.

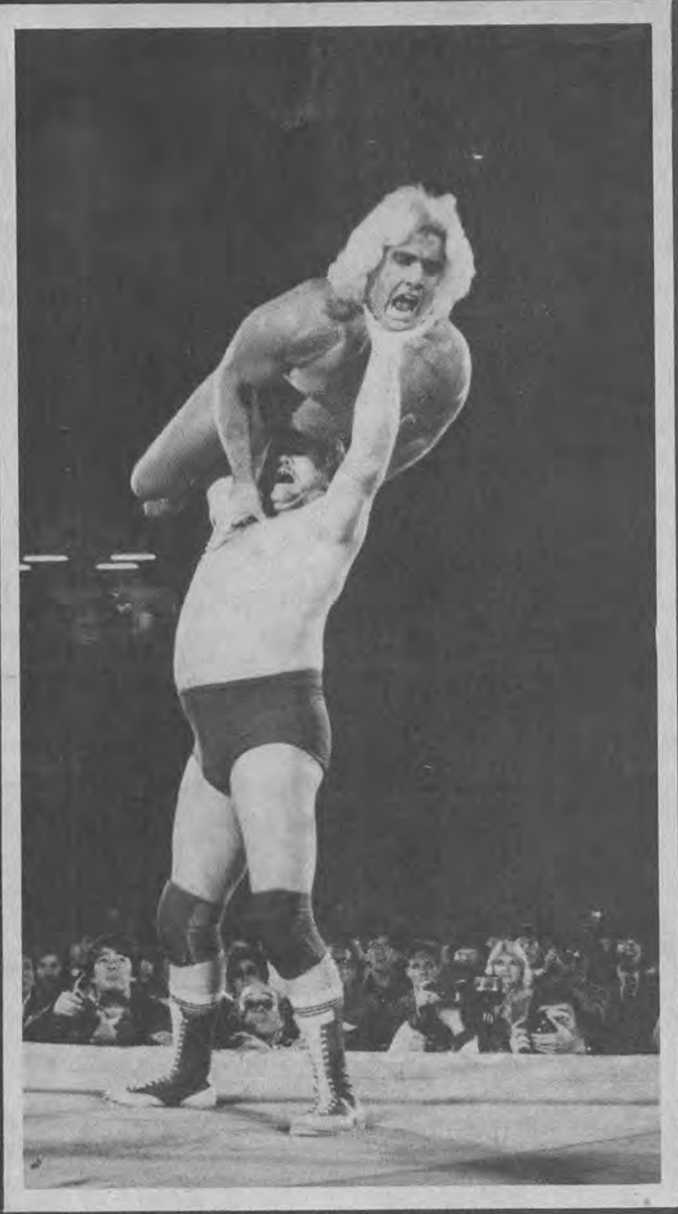
"I was wrong. I ask that the fans forgive me. I first lost my bearing and then my temper. I've since found both. I don't ask the fans to believe me. All I ask is that they let me once again earn their respect." □





After taking King Kong off his feet, Lawler takes advantage of the situation by delivering a fistdrop as he springs from the turnbuckles (left). Standing over Lawler and soaking up the fans' boos, Bundy is one depressed man (above).

RIC FLAIR'S THIRD TITLE REIGN WILL BE HIS SHORTEST!



Why does Harley Race believe Ric Flair's third NWA title reign will be his shortest? Race's reasons may shock you, but they can't be ignored. In this revealing article, Race not only tells about Flair, but about himself, the NWA title, and the dangers of being a professional wrestler

By Harley Race

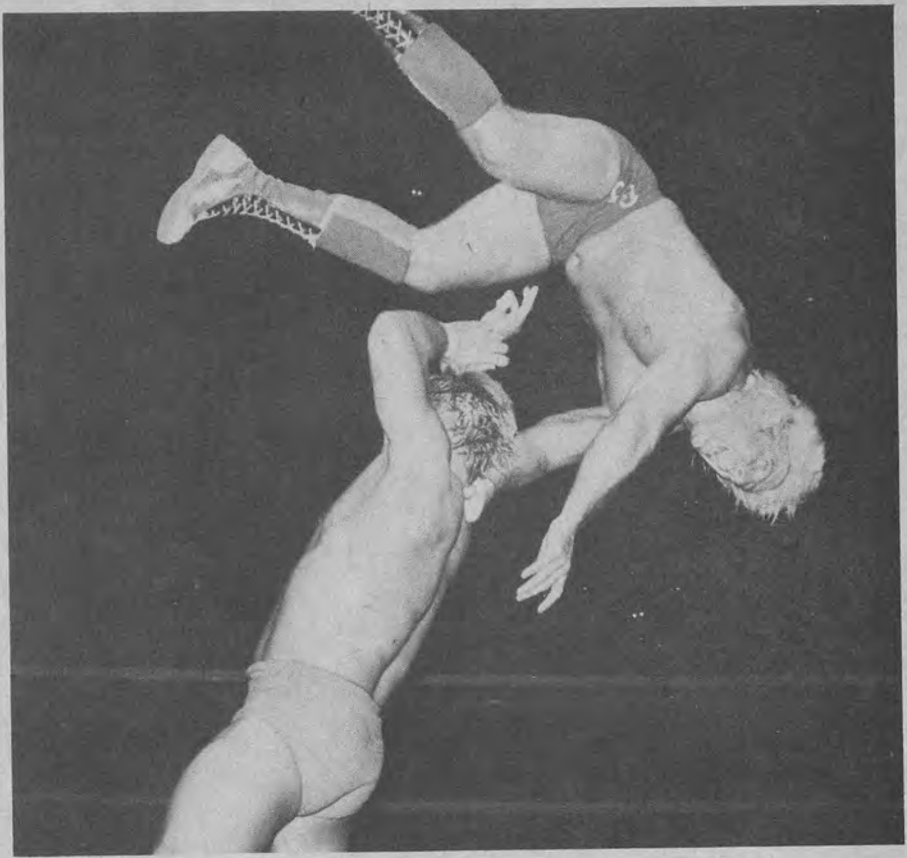
BEFORE WE BEGIN in earnest, let me comment up front on what Ric Flair fans must have screamed as soon as they read the headline of this story: I'm not a neutral observer when it comes to the NWA World title. I plan to win it again and I plan to take it from Flair. People have the right to think I'm writing this article as a means of psychological warfare.

At the same time, I contend that Ric Flair's third NWA title reign will be his shortest. I'm not going to ask you to take my word for it. All I ask is that you read my arguments with an open mind. If you don't agree, that's your privilege. But when Flair falls, don't say I didn't tell you why before it happened.

When Flair beat Kerry Von Erich to win the title a third time, at first I figured he'd probably keep it for a good, long while. After all, he suffered the anguish of losing the belt twice (and no one knows better than I how horrible it feels to suffer that!). I assumed he'd do what he should be protect it. Like many people, I considered his loss to Von Erich a combination of a fluke and overwork on Flair's part.

Then I wrestled Flair. I would have beaten him easily except I was in shock over how poorly he wrestled. I know that sounds like sour grapes but it's true. Flair was slow, clumsy, and dull-witted. In other words, the man is burnt out. In the beginning of the match, I figured he was trying to sucker me. That's why I wrestled too cautiously. Then when I realized he had little left, I couldn't take advantage of it. It was like being at the scene of an accident and stealing the victim's wallet. I pitied Flair.

Afterward, I wondered if the man wasn't sick or just had one of those off nights every wrestler dreads. I still couldn't believe Flair had lost



so much in so short a time. That's when I decided to see him wrestle someone else. The perfect match to judge Flair was his battle against Ronnie Garvin.

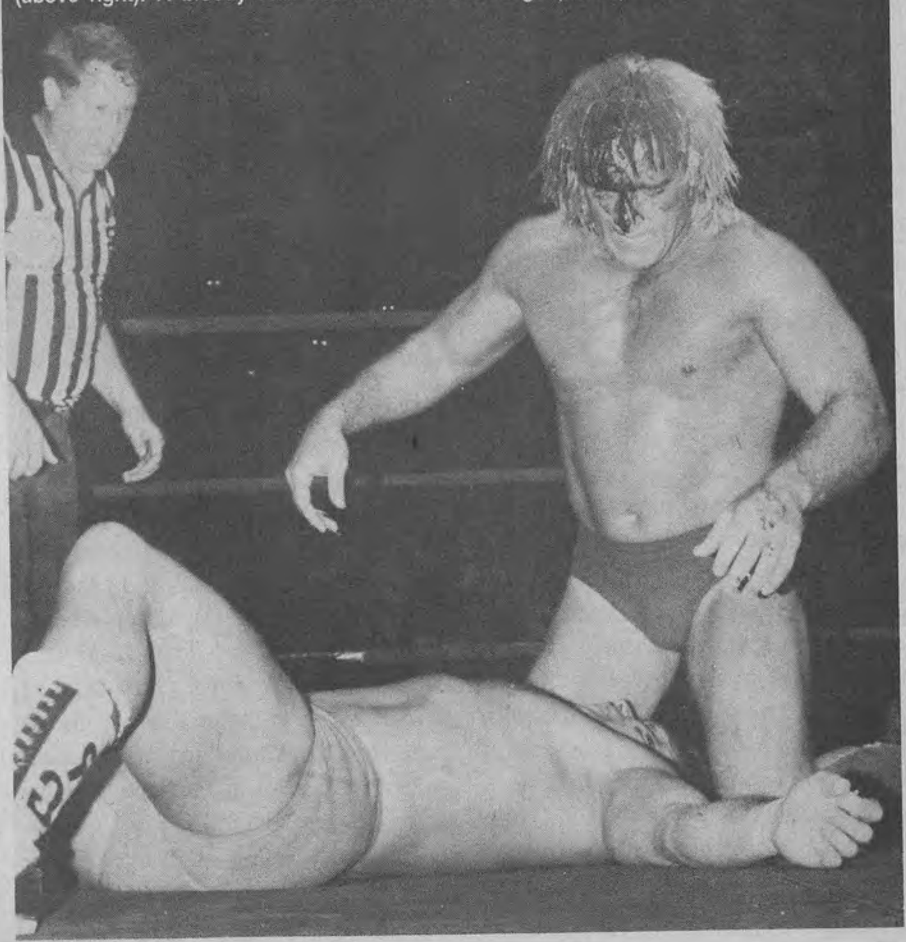
My choice of Garvin might seem strange to the casual wrestling fan. The uninformed think he's not top-flight, an impression Garvin doesn't try hard to correct. He prefers to let fans and opponents think he's a minor star. This allows him to surprise his opponents who might have thought they didn't need to train hard to wrestle him. Let me tell you from experience, no opponent ever takes Garvin lightly twice.

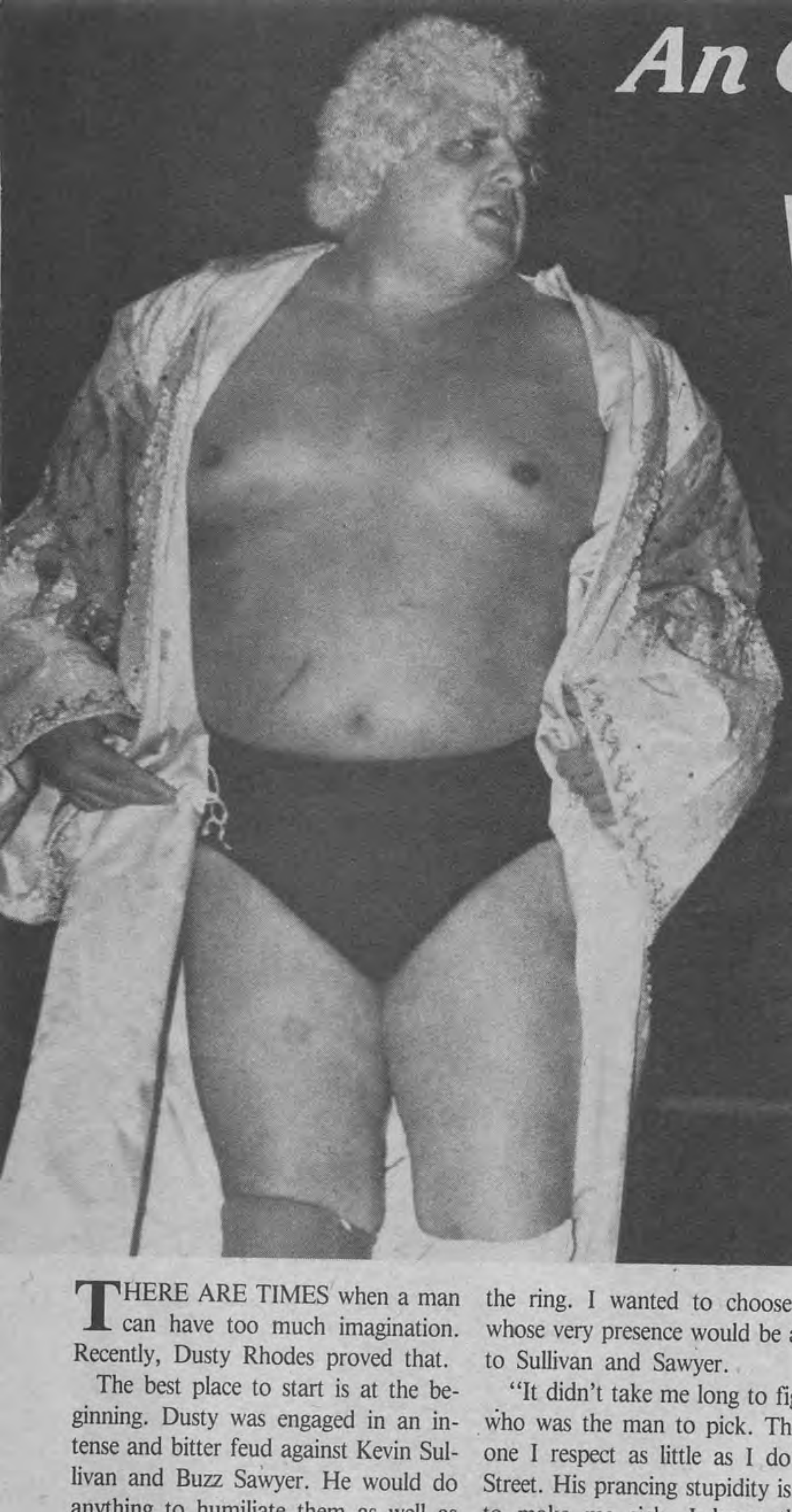
I knew Flair wouldn't take him lightly. Ric knew he had to be at his best to defeat Garvin. If there was anything left of the Flair ability, it would have to be shown in this match.

Before going any further, fairness forces me to admit that Flair was at one time something special. When he defeated me for the NWA belt the last time, he was an extraordinry athlete. In several of his matches after that title victory,

(Continued from page 62)

Harley Race, who predicts Ric Flair's demise, hoists the NWA World champion over his head (opposite page). Harley was particularly interested in Flair's match with Ronnie Garvin. Ronnie leaps upon Flair from the turnbuckles (top left) and backdrops the champ (above right). A bloody Flair assumes the advantage (below).





An Odd Couple A

WHY DUSTY RHO & ADRIAN STRE WILL NEVER TEAM AGAIN

Most people were shocked when they heard Dusty Rhodes had asked Adrian Street, a man Dusty despises, to be his tag team partner. That was only the beginning, for what followed has to be one of the most incredible chapters in wrestling history

THERE ARE TIMES when a man can have too much imagination. Recently, Dusty Rhodes proved that.

The best place to start is at the beginning. Dusty was engaged in an intense and bitter feud against Kevin Sullivan and Buzz Sawyer. He would do anything to humiliate them as well as defeat them. When he was scheduled to wrestle against the pair, he needed a tag team partner. We might as well let Dusty explain what happened next:

"I wanted to prove I could beat those bums senseless with anyone. I could take the man I admire least in the world and still run that pair out of the ring. I wanted to choose a man whose very presence would be an insult to Sullivan and Sawyer.

"It didn't take me long to figure out who was the man to pick. There's no one I respect as little as I do Adrian Street. His prancing stupidity is enough to make me sick. I knew that if I showed up with Street, Sullivan and Sawyer would consider it a slap in the face. And there's nothing a man hates more than a slap in the face; it's like getting your manhood spit upon. That's exactly how I wanted those bums to feel.

"I knew Street hates my guts as much as I hate his. But the offer was just crazy enough to appeal to a guy who wears makeup and never goes anywhere without an Amazon named Miss Linda. Yeah, I knew Street was getting an offer he couldn't resist."

Dusty was right on both counts. Street was happy to accept his offer, and the pairing infuriated Sullivan and Sawyer. When they were interviewed, Dusty's foes spoke with a cold hatred that made many people think Dusty had gone too far. You don't humiliate Sullivan and Sawyer and expect them to take it lightly. Rhodes had to know that his enemies would think up new

Photos by Eddie Cheslock and Bill Otten

t Odds:

DES
ET

Dusty Rhodes shocked a lot of people when he chose Exotic Adrian Street as his partner for his match against Kevin Sullivan and Buzz Sawyer (left). Seeing them wrestling against each other (above) seems more natural!

and dangerous ways to defeat him. They wouldn't be trying for victory but for inflicting permanent damage.

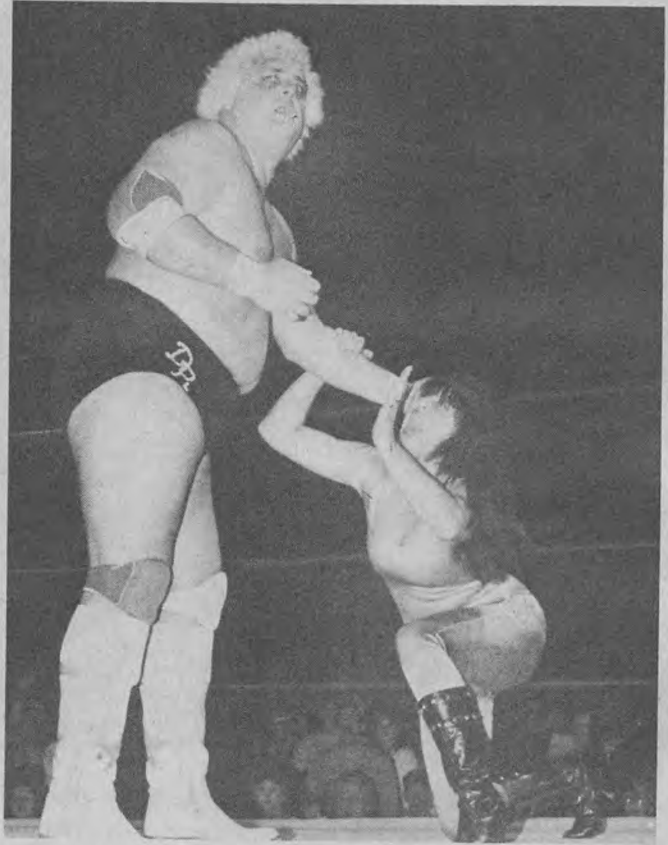
And so all four wrestlers traveled to Orlando, Florida, for the showdown. The crowd couldn't wait to see Rhodes and Street, billed naturally as "The Odd Couple." When the pair entered the ring with Miss Linda, fans cheered wildly. Dusty couldn't have been happier, allowing Miss Linda to douse him with whatever is actually in her atomizer. Rhodes was delighted by the anger expressed by Sullivan and Sawyer as they watched these antics. Sullivan is used to being the most bizarre wrestler in any match; after all, it's hard to be weirder than a Satanist. Street and Rhodes made Sullivan look like a Wall Street broker.

When the bell rang, Sullivan and Sawyer proved they were much angrier than they were smart. Rhodes had enraged them to the point where their lust for revenge made them reckless. Leaving themselves wide open time and time again, Rhodes and Street picked them apart almost at will. Even when Sawyer and Sullivan realized what was happening they couldn't change their tactics. Their team in disarray, Sullivan and Sawyer never had a chance to win. Rhodes not only conquered them, he humiliated them in the process.

Yet, they weren't the only ones Rhodes humiliated. It didn't take long for Street to realize that Rhodes considered him an insult and not a partner. Rhodes used Street to confound his foes but never depended on him. Throughout the battle, Dusty made it clear he never considered Street to be of any real use.

That set up the next match. To regain his honor, Street challenged Rhodes to a match. The language Adrian used to issue the challenge cannot be reprinted in this magazine.

Street draws back on his left leg, locking up Rhodes' chin (above). Dusty shows Street some exotic moves of his own as he frees his left arm (right). Street begs Dusty to watch his step (below left)! The Dream threatens Street's valet, Miss Linda, but he doesn't hit her (below right).



Rhodes happily accepted. To batter Street after humiliating Sawyer and Sullivan is Dusty's idea of everything working out perfectly.

From the beginning of their match in Richmond, Virginia, Street proved that he is a fearsome competitor; it's a sad opponent who takes Street lightly because of his strange behavior. Street went at Rhodes with a savagery he'd never before exhibited. Adrian was out to prove that Rhodes had no right to treat him as a joke. The man's dignity was on the line, and Street showed that he takes his dignity very seriously.

For the first few minutes of the battle, Rhodes was overwhelmed by Street's rage. Then Dusty's fury swelled to equal proportions and the match turned into a war. Some fans screamed themselves hoarse while others sat stunned into silence by the violent cruelty of the bout.

The referee had no choice but to disqualify both men for tactics that wouldn't be allowed in a barroom brawl. Street rushed back to the dressing room while Dusty remained in the ring accepting cheers from the fans. He was a weary but happy man.

Afterward, Dusty was asked if he thought he and Street would ever again be a tag team. At first Dusty shook his head, but then he added, "I never thought I'd ever team with Street. I guess if there's one thing I've learned in wrestling is that anything can happen. I will say one thing about the man, though: He earned my respect tonight as a wrestler."

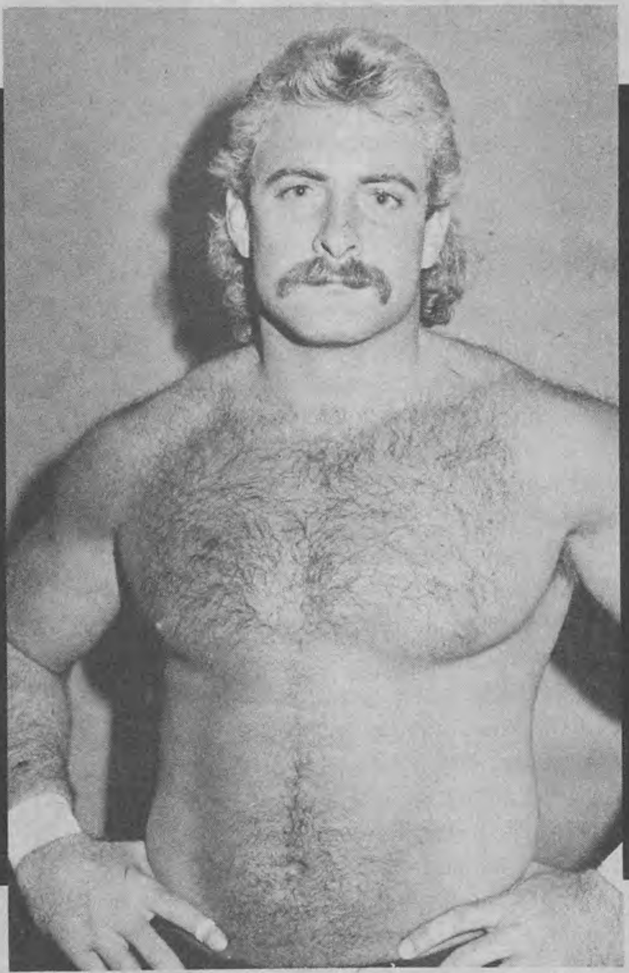
That admission could be considered a victory for both men. □

MAGNUM T.A.

"I WANT WRESTLING II TO COACH ME AGAIN!"

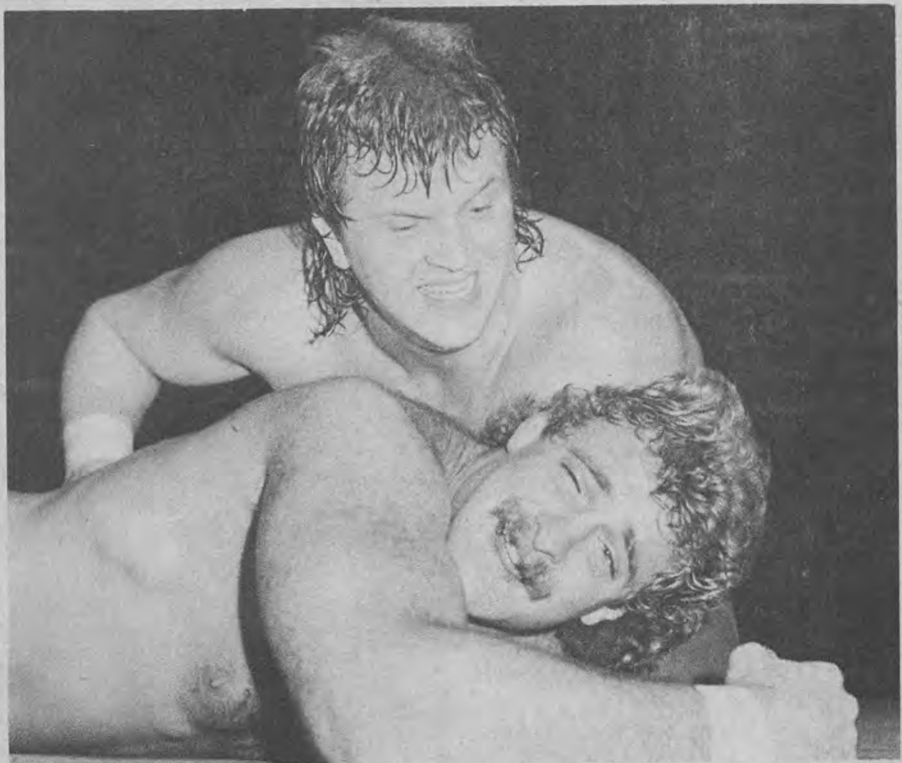
Terry "Magnum T.A." Allen can't enjoy his reign as the North American champion. He can't enjoy it because he and the man who helped him achieve this goal, Mr. Wrestling II, are now bitter enemies. As hard as it is to believe, Magnum T.A now wants II back as his coach!

Photos by Alice Marie Nelson



T.A. drops to the mat and extends his right arm to legsweep Eaton. He catches Eaton's left leg, tripping him up and dropping him to the canvas. T.A. immediately rises to his feet, jumps over Eaton and lands near his head. As he lands, T.A. clamps a headlock on Eaton and cinches down on the hold, immobilizing his foe.

Later, Eaton begins to climb the turnbuckles after stunning T.A. with a high vertical suplex. As he reaches the top turnbuckle, T.A. rises to his feet. He has been playing possum. T.A. picks his opponent off the turnbuckle and slams him three-quarters of the way across the ring. Eaton is stunned, but rises to his feet immediately. T.A. hits him with two well-placed dropkicks. Eaton gets up off the canvas, but is dazed and faces the ropes, his back to T.A. Magnum pushes him into the ropes and rolls him into a reverse cradle for the pinfall.



Magnum T.A. seems to be looking outside the ring for someone to tell him how to escape Bobby Eaton's hammerlock.

"I'M STALE. I just don't have it. There's something missing."

Terry "Magnum T.A." Allen sat on a chair in his dressing room staring at the floor. He had removed one of his boots, and had begun to unlace the other when he stopped to assess his performance against Bobby Eaton that night.

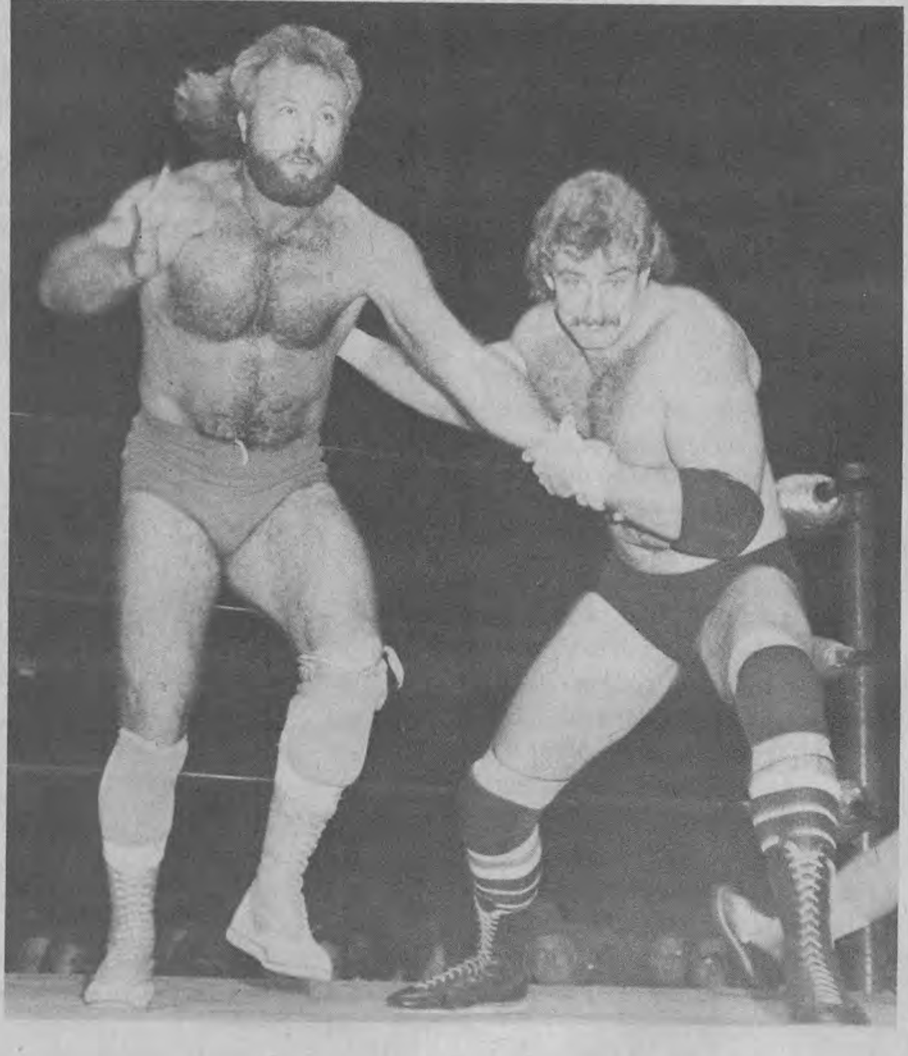
"I missed so many opportunities tonight," he said. "I let things slip through my hands that I shouldn't have. I won this match, but I didn't come near giving my best performance. I want to get better with every match, but it seems like I'm not progressing past a certain point. If my challengers are getting better and better, and as they watch me they get to know my style better, someone's gonna beat me. It's gonna happen."

The three reporters standing around T.A. were shocked. Allen had turned in a sharp performance against Eaton, half of the Mid-South tag team championship team, The Midnight Express. There was nothing unusual about that night's match: It was T.A.'s usual fine outing. Since winning the North American belt, Allen has unceremoniously but competently knocked down challenger after challenger. He quickly got used to the defensive wrestling posture most champions take, while at the same time taking enough offensive chances to please the hordes of fans who have witnessed his title defenses. Against Eaton, Allen put in a poised, mature performance, and most important, posted yet another successful title defense.

It seemed to the reporters that T.A. had put to rest the difficulties he had been experiencing with his former coach, Mr. Wrestling II, the man he beat for the title. The journalists looked forward to a positive interview from Allen after the bout. They expected him to speculate on future challenges from Krusher Khrushchev and Hacksaw Butch Reed. Instead, they walked in to find a sullen, self-doubting young man.

"I'm not getting anywhere." Allen said, his eyes looking toward the floor. "It's like a race. If you run at a steady

Mr. Wrestling II was a very interested spectator when his former protege, T.A., met his latest protege, Mr. Wrestling III (above). T.A., a formidable North American champion, flings Dennis Condrey into the turnbuckles (below).

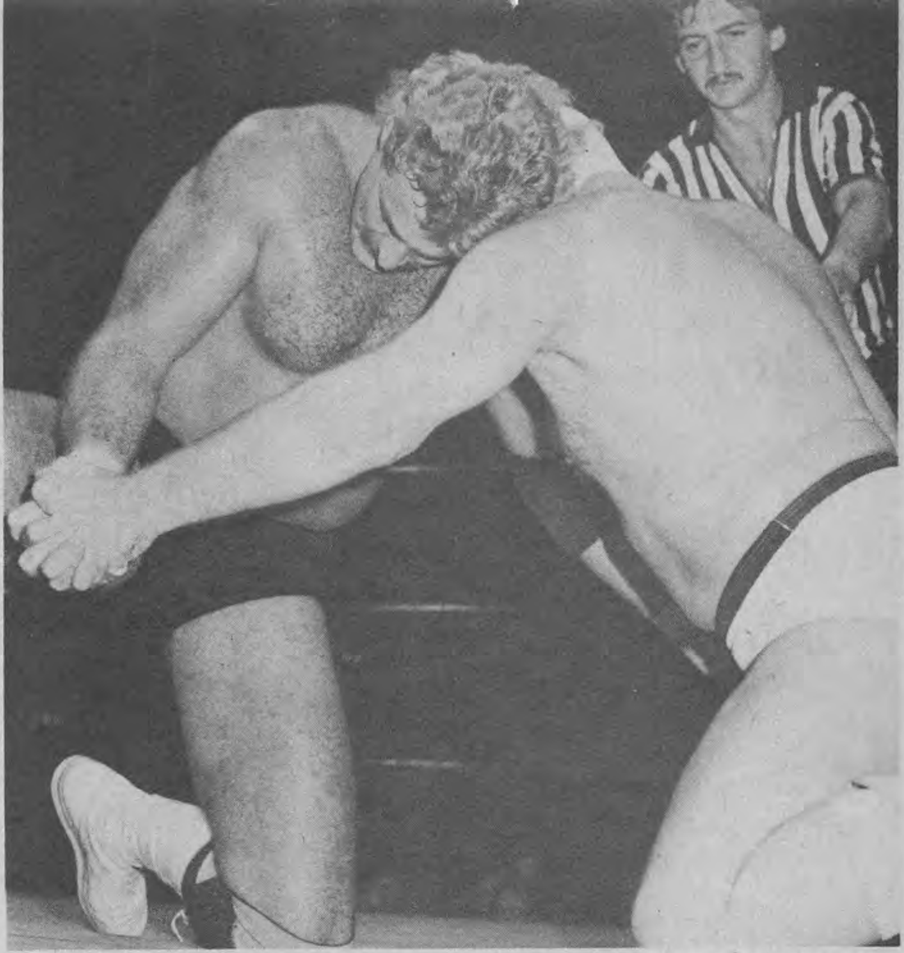


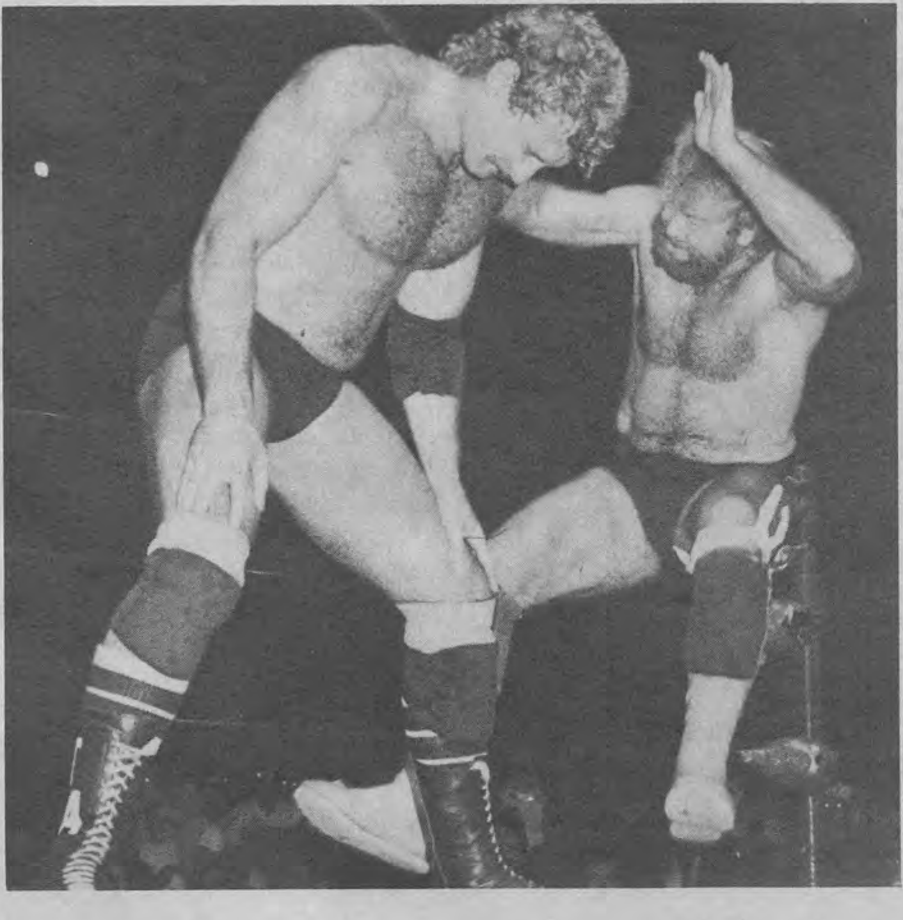
pace, there's gonna be someone behind you will pick up speed and pass you. That's the truth of the situation. Someone's gonna catch up to me.

"I'll tell you what I need," he continued, lifting his head to gauge the reaction of the reporters. "I need a coach. I need my old coach. I need Mr. Wrestling II."

The reporters tried to supress their surprise. They busily jotted away into notepads. One of them looked into his cassette recorder to make sure it was operating; that quote would not have to be written down or recorded to be remembered.

How could Allen even consider any further association with II after the events of the last three months? Wrestling II had belittled T.A. on television. II slapped his face in front of the fans and the TV cameras. II insulted Allen in national magazines. II went as far as to strap a metal object to his knee during one match in New Orleans to kneelift T.A. into unconsciousness. And, in the ultimate disgrace, II replaced Allen with a new protege. After all this, how could T.A. even consider a reunion with Wrestling II?





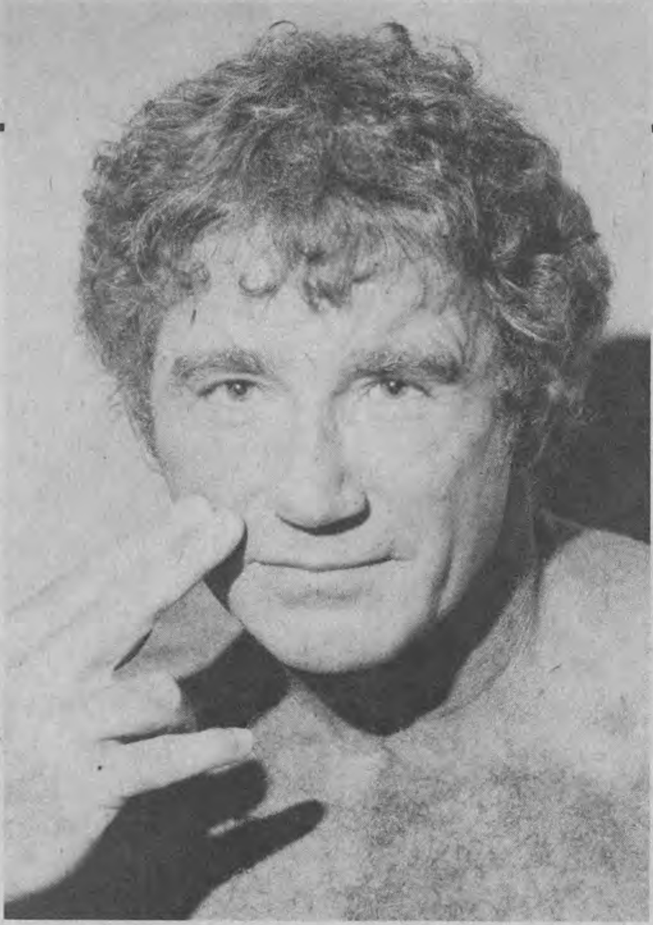
T.A. realizes that there is still a lot he can learn from Mr. Wrestling II, whom he battles (above). T.A., being whipped by Condrey (below), admits that he would like to have II back as his coach.

"I've said this before, but I don't think anyone really believed me," T.A. said. "II has gone through a lot of changes recently, but I think the changes are temporary. I don't know what has gone on in his mind. I don't even think that he knows what's going on in his own mind, but the old Mr. Wrestling II is in there somewhere. I'm gonna do everything I can to get him back out.

"II got me to the North American championship. He taught me everything I needed to know. He was a great coach. He's a brilliant man. He taught me how to be a great wrestler, but he never got the chance to teach me how to be a great champion. That's what's missing. I don't know how to be champion. And you know what they call people who have to learn on the job. They call them unemployed. North American champion is a great job. I want to hold on to it. Wrestling II might be my only salvation."

Mr. Wrestling II had little to say in response to his former protege's quote. He merely smiled, shrugged his shoulders, and said, "I'm not surprised." □

Photos by Brad McFarlin



DiBiase jumps off the ring apron, forcing Brad Armstrong's throat into the top strand (above). Brad's face is marked, but Bob Armstrong's face (top) was so badly damaged by DiBiase that it needed surgical repair.

Bob Armst

"DiBIASE

By Bill Apter

"IT'S REALLY A hard thing to think about. I have mixed emotions about the whole thing. I don't want to *kill* DiBiase. Not really. But look—this is family we're talking about, this is my father. What would you do? How would you feel?"

Brad Armstrong's voice was shaky when I questioned him back in May about Ted DiBiase's attack on his father. It's never been found out *exactly* what happened and how, but it's enough to say that Bob Armstrong sustained a broken cheekbone, hairline fractures in several bones in the face, and had to undergo extensive plastic surgery and several additional operations to repair the broken bones.

DiBiase has made no attempt to hide his pride in what he did to Armstrong, and he has openly expressed his willingness to do the same thing to Bob's son Brad. And with the National heavyweight title currently belonging to Brad, DiBiase's motivation becomes that much stronger.

I recently interviewed Bob with the intention of learning something about his hospital stay and the nature and extent of his injuries. My interview turned into something quite unexpected as I found out that Bob's attitude toward his son is not precisely what I had anticipated it would be.

"Let me tell you something, Brad is a tough kid," Bob said. "He's been so hellbent on revenge, though, he's lost control of himself in a lot of ways. It cost him the National heavyweight title for a while, when The Spoiler took the belt away from him, and that happened because Brad was too determined to get revenge on DiBiase.

"See, Brad's been trying to fight two battles," Bob said, "and I don't

ng's Message To His Son Brad:

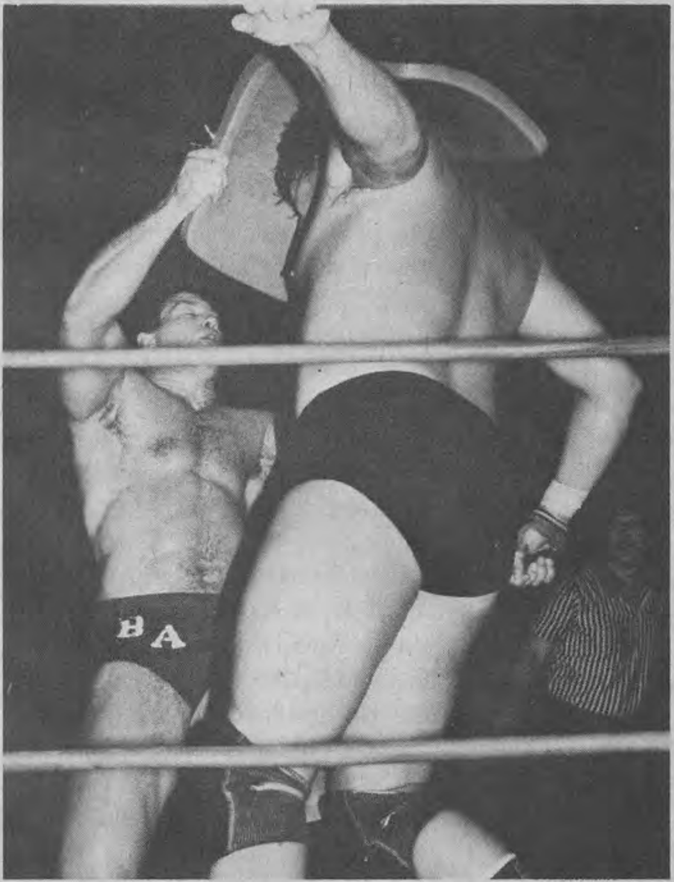
S MY PROBLEM, NOT YOURS!"

When Ted DiBiase savagely mutilated the face of Bob Armstrong, Bob's son Brad immediately ran to his father's defense. After a lengthy hospital stay and several operations, Bob Armstrong is back in action—and he's telling his son to step aside in the battle against DiBiase!

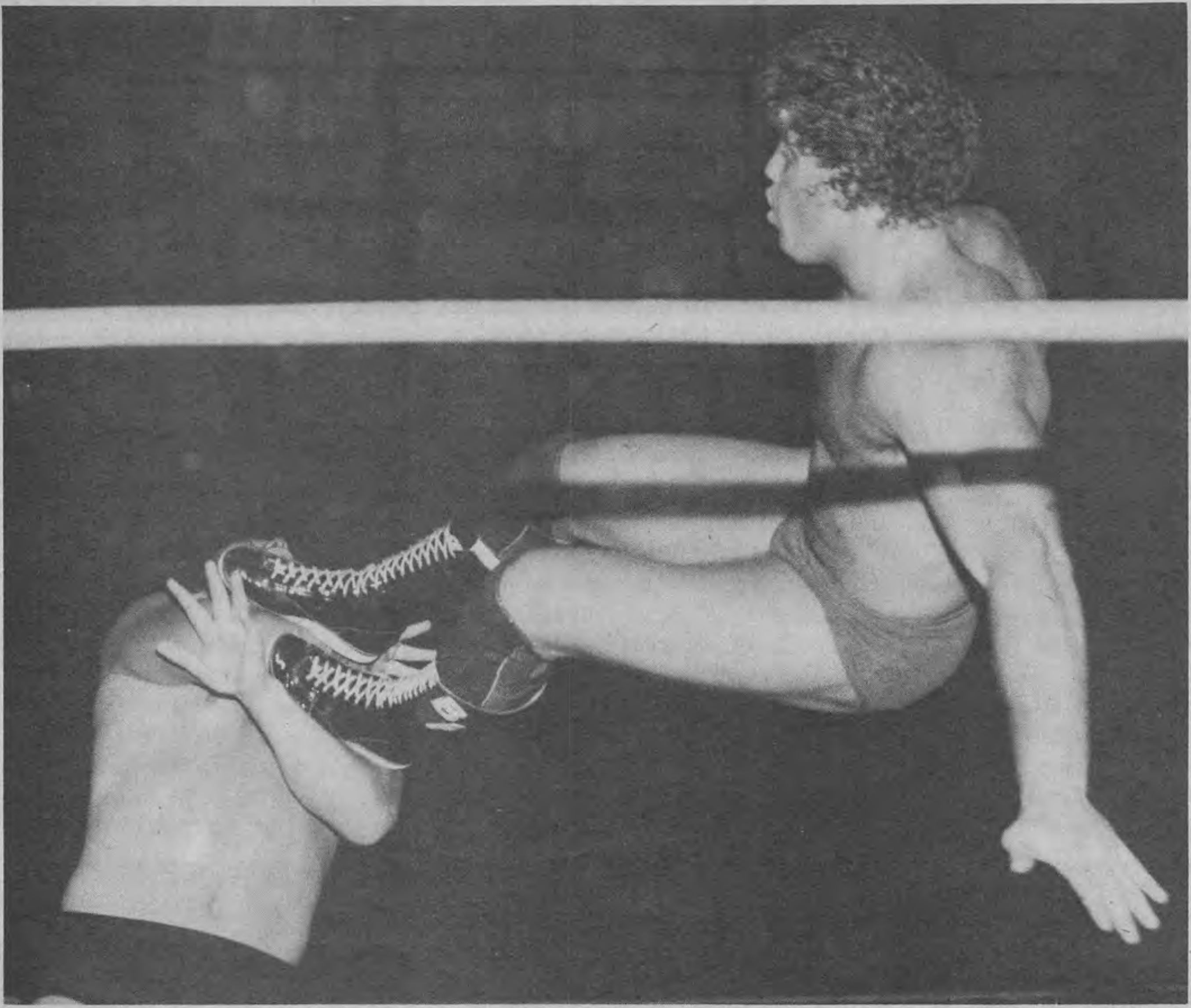
care how tough a man is, it's tough enough to fight one battle in this sport without having to look over your shoulder at someone else who's out to get you. He's trying to sustain a National title reign at the same time as trying to get DiBiase out of wrestling. That's hard. That's very, very hard. And I really don't want to see him do that. Last time he slipped up it cost him the National title. Next time—who knows?"

As Bob talked, I looked at his face. I could clearly see the scars from where he had been operated on, and the patchy skin where the plastic surgery had been performed. I thought about the pain that Bob must have had to endure over the past few months, and I thought about why Bob felt so strongly about Brad's involvement in the DiBiase situation. It was simply a father's concern with trying to keep his son from harm.

In wrestling, if your son is involved in the sport as heavily as you are, fatherly instincts have to be eliminated completely. Angelo Mosca has learned this. Blackjack Mulligan has learned this. But I think Bob Armstrong has yet to resign himself to this fact: that there are times when he's going to have to let his son do what he feels he *has* to do; and he may have to watch his son suffer for it. As painful as it may be, that's a part of the growth



Brad, who ordinarily adheres strictly to the rules, slams a chair across DiBiase's head (above left). Armstrong leaps over his charging nemesis (above right). Brad would surely sacrifice his National title for a chance to get back at DiBiase.



Brad's dropkick catches DiBiase flush on the jaw. Bob Armstrong feels he is healthy enough to get his own revenge against DiBiase. He would like to see Brad concentrate on the National title.

and maturation process of a professional wrestler.

"I've told my son time and time again," Bob said, "and since he's probably going to read this magazine I'll tell him again; maybe seeing the words in print will have more of an effect on him.

"Listen to me, Brad. You've been a rock through this whole situation. I love you very much. I'm proud of you. I enjoy watching you compete, and your success over the years has made me proud.

"But you can't continue to fight my battle for me. I can't measure the depth of my feelings for what you did for me while I was in the hospital, but I'm healed now. I'm back. And now that I'm back, it's time for you to step down. DiBiase is my problem, now, not yours. You've got to move on to other things.

"There, I've said it," Bob continued, "and now maybe Brad will finally pay attention to what I've been telling him. Maybe even the fans will read my words and send letters to Brad telling him what I've been telling him. Because this is so important to me. I don't want Brad's career ruined because of something that happened to me."

Is Bob afraid of DiBiase injuring him again, perhaps even more brutally than before?

"No. Absolutely not," Bob said. "I think if anyone ought to be afraid, it's DiBiase who should be afraid. This is payback time, my friend, and I can't think of another man in the world who owes me more dues than DiBiase. And I aim to collect those dues. I really don't care how long it takes, but I *will* collect those dues. And it's not going to be pretty."

I have no doubt that Bob Armstrong will reenter the mat wars full force now that he is recovered from his facial surgery. But I want to offer this warning:

Don't be too quick to exact revenge, Bob. I know you're a fighter, I know you have plenty of ring experience behind you, but you've just come through some hard months. Remember those days in the hospital, and remember how you got there.

In short, do what you have to do with DiBiase. But as Sgt. Esterhaus used to say on *Hill Street Blues,* "HEY!—Let's be careful out there." □

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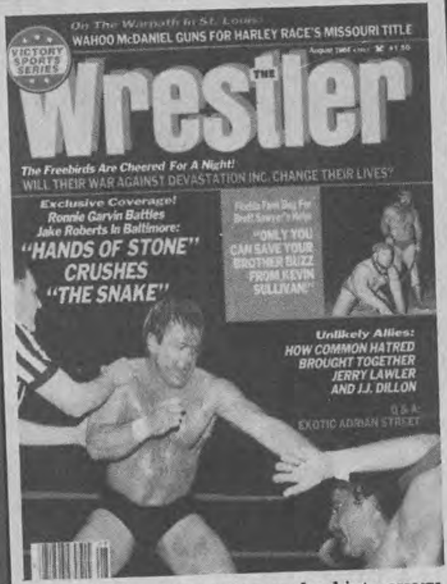

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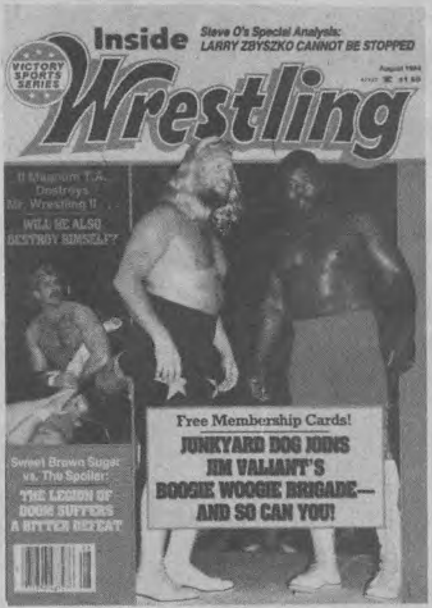

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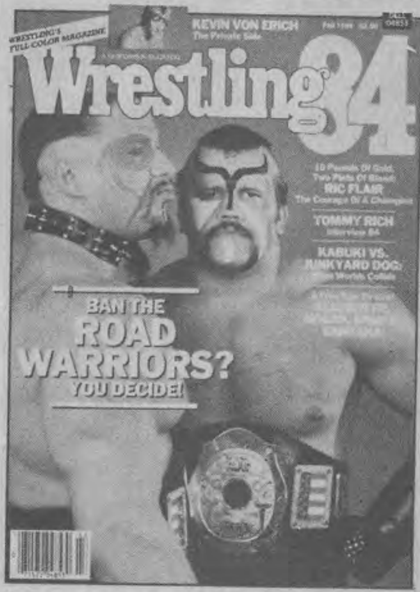

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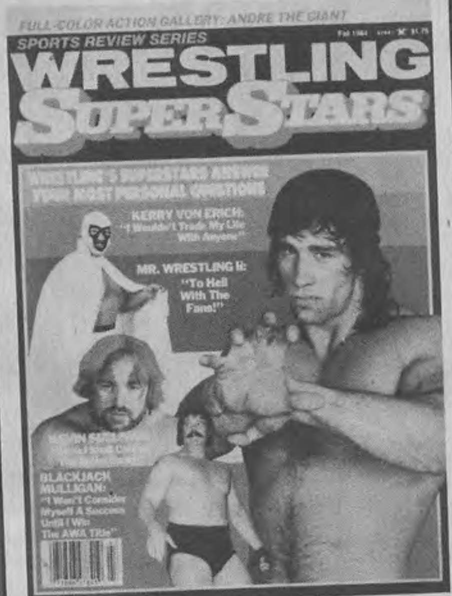

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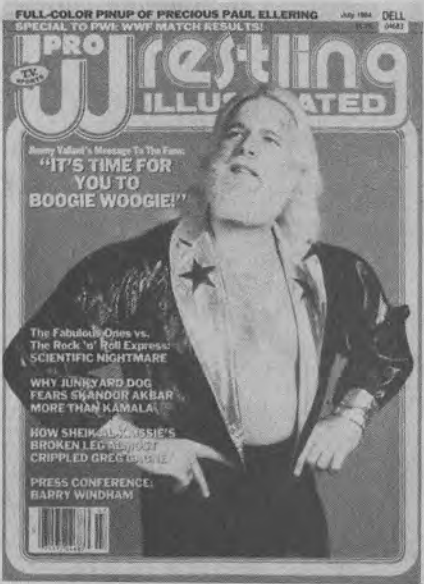

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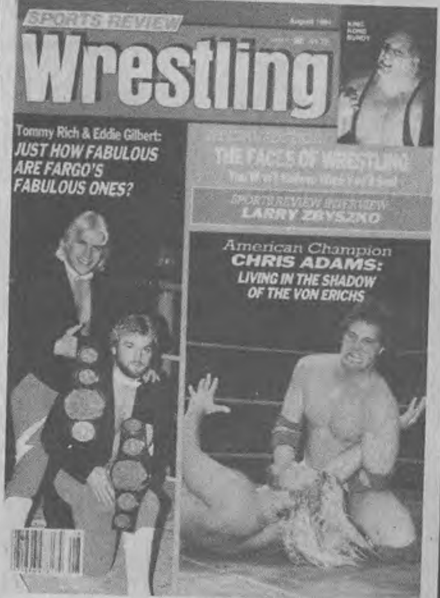

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Beyond the Squared Circle

Daniel and Evelyne Martel are proud of their son Rick, the new AWA champion. Rick visited his parents in Quebec City.

If Bill Otten never has another photograph in this magazine, you'll know Billy Jack was serious!

Blackjack Mulligan is probably one of the only people to push this scale's dial past the 300 mark.

Harley Race monitors the blow-by-blow broadcast in the dressing room in Kansas City, Missouri.

Which two of these three men are not who they seem to be? When Road Warrior Animal came to New York for the historic Meadowlands Arena card, he encountered some very unusual people. Of course, the same can be said of him!

One of the ways National champion Brad Armstrong relaxes between matches is by playing video games.

Gorgeous Jim Garvin and his valet, Precious, pose with popular comedian George Carlin in St. Louis.

Jumbo Tsuruta looks somewhat depressed on his trip back to Japan after losing the AWA World title.

Junkyard Dog has joined Jimmy Valiant's "Boogie Woogie Brigade." If you want to receive your card, just send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Boogie Woogie Brigade, Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571.

Gary Hart, scheduled to tour Japan with Kabuki, glances through *DX Pro Wrestling Magazine.*

Butch Reed uses pushup blocks and a bench to warm up in the dressing room before a match. Reed is acknowledged as one of the most powerful wrestlers in the sport.

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CORRESPONDENTS REPORTS
(Continued from page 10)

Paul Orndorff was disqualified in his match against WWF champion Hulk Hogan for bringing a foreign object into the ring.

match against Hulk Hogan at the Kiel Auditorium.

Hogan controlled the match from the beginning, using his incredible strength to execute a series of suplexes and bodyslams.

Orndorff used eye gouges, punches, and kicks to gain the upper hand. After suplexing the 320-pound champ to the canvas, Orndorff pulled a foreign object from his trunks. The referee saw the object before Orndorff could use it and called for the disqualification. Hogan, however, was not satisfied. He stole the object away and punched Orndorff senseless with it.

In other bouts, Jimmy Snuka defeated Roddy Piper by countout . . . Magnificent Muraco defeated Salvatore Bellomo . . . Greg Valentine beat Tony Garea.

Indianapolis, Indiana *(Correspondent*—Brett Collins): Steve
(Continued on page 50)

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FALL/84

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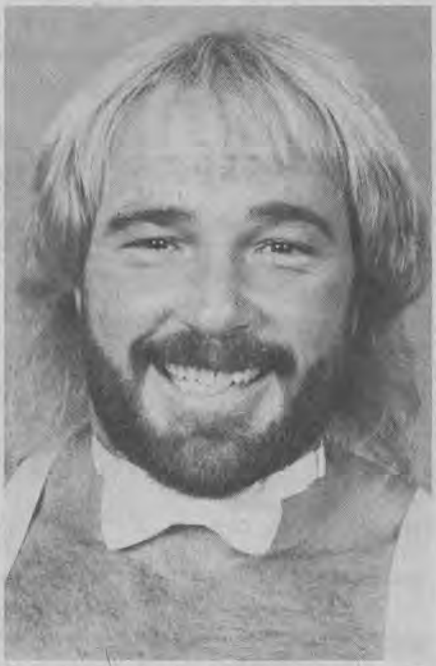
CORRESPONDENTS REPORTS

(Continued from page 48)

Keirn was awarded $50,000 after eliminating Crusher Blackwell to win the 17-man battle royal at the Market Square Arena.

The order of elimination from one to 13 was as follows: Steve O, Big Jim Lancaster, Chris Markoff, Baron Von Raschke, Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie, Brad Rheingans, Blackjack Lanza, Bruiser, Steve Regal, Precious Paul Ellering, Curt Hennig, Blackjack Mulligan, and The Crusher.



Steve Keirn was the happy winner of a 17-man battle royal in Indianapolis. Keirn received a check for $50,000.

The last four men in the ring were tag team partners Keirn and Stan Lane, Nick Bockwinkel, and Blackwell.

Bockwinkel dropped Keirn to the canvas with a series of punches, and then assisted Blackwell in throwing Lane over the top rope. With two rulebreakers left to battle one fan favorite, the next move was predictable. Bockwinkel held Keirn from behind as Blackwell charged from the opposite side of the ring. At the last minute, Keirn broke free from Bockwinkel and Blackwell slammed into the former AWA champ, sending him

into the turnbuckle.

Bockwinkel furiously attacked Blackwell. Keirn took advantage of the sudden dissension between the two and dropkicked Bockwinkel over the top rope.

Blackwell scooped Keirn up and delivered a powerslam that shook the ring. Blackwell then attempted to toss Keirn over the top rope, but Steve managed to hold on to the ropes and not touch the floor. Thinking he had won, Blackwell turned his back on Keirn. Keirn re-entered the ring and dropkicked his opponent in the back of the head. The 474-pound Blackwell tumbled over the top strand and hit the floor with a thud, giving Keirn the victory.

In other bouts, Lanza and Mulligan defeated Blackwell and Al-Kaissie ... Bockwinkel beat Von Raschke by disqualification ... Hennig drew with Regal ... Keirn defeated Lancaster ... Rheingans defeated Markoff. ☐

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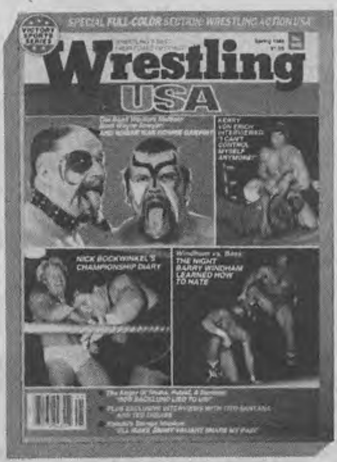

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ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER

(Continued from page 30)

son everybody who manages Abdullah has to get rid of him," Holliday continued. "There was just no way that I could satisfy his thirst for blood. He would rip into men like Dusty Rhodes and Tommy Rich, carve their heads open like you wouldn't believe, and it wouldn't be enough. From two or three matches a week I had to move him up to five, and finally seven matches a week. Every night he was carving up somebody else. It was worse than the chainsaw scene in *Scarface.* It was pretty grisly.

"I have to question whether there's anybody in the AWA who can stop Abdullah," Holliday said. "And once he's worked his way through everyone in the AWA once, he's going to want to do it twice. Then three times. I don't think the wrestlers in that area can handle that kind of abuse; they've never been exposed to anything like Abdullah. And when the Butcher is through with the AWA, he'll move on to somewhere else. When you get right down to it, it's pretty disgusting. Frankly, I'm glad that he was on my side when he was in Florida."

As long as Abdullah remains on Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie's side, the outlook for the future of the AWA remains bleak. The AWA fans are placing a lot of faith in men like The Blackjacks, Crusher, Baron Von Raschke, and possibly even Crusher Blackwell to stop Abdullah's AWA rampage. Unless the Butcher can be stopped, his path of destruction will cut a bloody swath through the AWA ratings, possibly all the way up to World champion Rick Martel.

AWA World champion Abdullah the Butcher? It's a horrible thought. But in the world of professional wrestling, stranger things have been known to happen. ☐

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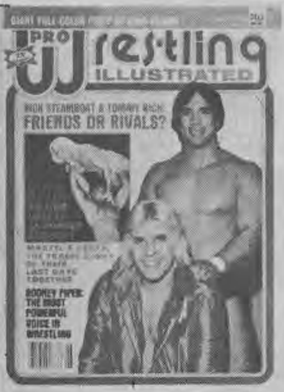


AUGUST 1982

July 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: The Sheik. Cover story: Bruno Sammartino. PLUS: Wrestling II, Race, Ladd, Albano.

August 1980/COLOR STARSHOT: Koloff and Smirnoff. Cover story: Bruno vs. Zbyszko. PLUS: Idol, Von Erichs, Rhodes, Hogan.

October 1981/COLOR POSTER: Ted DiBiase. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Piper. PLUS: Backlund, Brody, Mascaras, Rich.

January 1982/COLOR POSTER: Magnificent Muraco. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Flair. PLUS: Hogan, Koloff, Von Erichs, Atlas, Zbyszko.

May 1982/COLOR POSTER: Ric Flair. Cover story: Wrestling II vs. Spoiler. PLUS: Mulligan Jr., Backlund, McDaniel, Piper.

June 1982/COLOR POSTER: Nick Bockwinkel. Cover story: Adonis & Ventura. PLUS: Snuka, Patera, Blassie, Flair.

August 1982/COLOR POSTER: Dino Bravo. Cover story: Steamboat & Rich. PLUS: Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

September 1982/COLOR POSTER: Blackjack Mulligan Jr. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Piper, Snuka, Von Erich, Martel.

October 1982/COLOR POSTER: Jerry Lawler. Cover story: Ric Flair. PLUS: Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

December 1982/COLOR POSTER: Rick Martel. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. PLUS: Von Erich, Orndorff, Reed, Albano.

January 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ken Patera. Cover story: Rick Steamboat. PLUS: Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.

February 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ivan Putski. Cover story: Rhodes vs. Garvin. PLUS: Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.

March 1983/COLOR POSTER: Andre The Giant. Cover photo: Bob Backlund. SPECIAL YEAR-END ISSUE! 1982—The Year In Review! PLUS: Results of the 1982 *PWI* Fan Poll!

April 1983/COLOR POSTER: Superstar Graham. Cover story: Mil Mascaras. PLUS: Valentine, Hansen, Orndorff, Hart.

May 1983/COLOR POSTER: Jimmy Valiant. Cover story: Jimmy Snuka. PLUS: Windham, Bockwinkel, Flair, Graham.

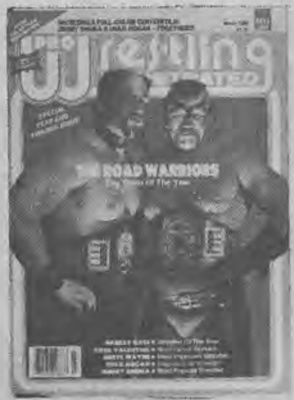
JULY 1983

June 1983/COLOR POSTER: Cowboy Bob Orton. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Brisco, Von Erich, Slaughter, Muraco.

July 1983/COLOR POSTER: Ivan Koloff. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Patera, Von Erich, Snuka, Geigel.

August 1983/COLOR POSTER: Larry Zbyszko. Cover story: Roddy Piper. PLUS: Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

October 1983/COLOR POSTER: Junkyard Dog. Cover story: Tommy Rich. PLUS: Johnson, Adonis, Rhodes, Piper.



MARCH 1984

November 1983/COLOR POSTER: Roddy Piper. Cover story: Harley Race. PLUS: Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

December 1983/COLOR POSTER: Wahoo McDaniel. Cover story: Dusty Rhodes. PLUS: Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

January 1984/COLOR POSTER: Harley Race. Cover story: Rick Martel. PLUS: Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

February 1984/COLOR POSTER: Jim Garvin & Sunshine. Cover story: Greg Valentine. PLUS: Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

March 1984/SPECIAL FOUR-PAGE COLOR SECTION featuring Jimmy Snuka & Hulk Hogan, Brett Sawyer, Ric Flair vs. Harley Race. Cover photo: The Road Warriors. SPECIAL YEAR-END ISSUE—1983 In Review! Plus 1983 *PWI* Fan Poll results!

April 1984/COLOR POSTER: Rocky Johnson. Cover story: Ric Flair. PLUS: Hogan, Andre, Rich, Bundy.

May 1984/COLOR POSTER: Hacksaw Butch Reed. Cover story: Hulk Hogan. PLUS: Road Warriors, Fabulous Ones, Flair, Rotundo.

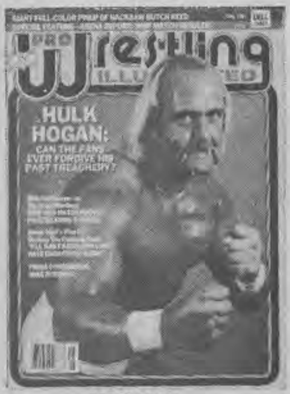
June 1984/COLOR POSTER: Dick Slater. Cover story: Ted DiBiase. PLUS: Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, One Man Gang, Hogan.

July 1984/COLOR POSTER: Paul Ellering. Cover story: Jimmy Valiant. PLUS: Junkyard Dog, Fabulous Ones, Gagne, Windham.

August 1984/COLOR POSTER: Stan Hansen. Cover story: Jerry Lawler. PLUS: Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell, Flair.

September 1984/COLOR POSTER: Hulk Hogan. Cover story: The Road Warriors. SPECIAL FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE—A Look Back At Wrestling In The *PWI* Years.

October 1984/COLOR POSTER: Billy Jack. Cover story: Kerry Von Erich. PLUS: Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.



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"The Influence of Exercise on Growth" revealed by U.S. Surgeon. (From the Journal of Experimental Medicine) A controlled group experiment.

"GAINS IN HEIGHT and weight as a result of experiments on boys from 12 to 17." Studies in Physical Development and Posture. (From U.S. Public Health Bulletin.)

Mr. C.A. claims and testifies to HEIGHT INCREASE of 1½" at age of 54.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from page 8)

Steamboat, and Wahoo moved in for the pin.

"I really don't care what Steamboat thinks about how I won the title," McDaniel said. "The fact of the matter is: I have the title. Period. End of story. A lot of long months have gone by where I deserved title shots and never got them. Well, I finally got one and now I've got the U.S. title. That also means I'll be getting more and more shots at **Ric Flair**. This belt is my ticket to the NWA World title, and I don't care what anybody has to say about anything, sooner or later Flair will fall—and I'll be there to pick up the pieces!"

Road Warrior Animal displayed awesome power in bodyslamming the 420-pound King Kong Bundy.

Precious Paul Ellering is gloating over the fact that **Road Warrior Animal** successfully bodyslammed **King Kong Bundy**, a feat that made The Legion Of Doom $15,000 richer. "This should prove once and for all the undeniable fact that when anyone attempts to discredit The Legion Of Doom, they live to see the day when they regret that attempt with all their heart and soul. Bundy tried to make fools out of us, but we proved to him who the biggest fool truly is—all 420 pounds of him!"

Buzz Sawyer surprised fans in Toronto recently when he filled in for **Exotic Adrian Street** in a six-man tag team match; Sawyer's partners were **Jimmy Valiant** and **Angelo Mosca** . . . **Masked Superstar** is ne-

Masked Superstar has expressed a desire to wrestle AWA World champion Rick Martel.

gotiating for a series of matches in the AWA area . . . **Bobby Jaggers** recently captured the Southwest heavyweight title from **Killer Brooks**.

Masao Ito, also known as **The Oriental Connection**, captured the Mid-Southern International title from **Austin Idol**. Until recently, Idol had been managed by **Jimmy Hart**, and it seemed that the Mid-Southern fans were beginning to trust Hart. But when Idol lost the title, Hart was not in his corner. The Oriental Connection, however, *did* have a manager in his corner: a man in a hood and a camouflage suit who, oddly enough, seemed to be built very much like Hart. Several days later, when Hart was questioned about the situation, he claimed that the reason he wasn't in Idol's corner was that **Jerry Lawler** and several other

wrestlers had kidnapped him and locked him in the trunk of his car. As he told this story during a televised segment of Mid-Southern wrestling, The Oriental Connection went to the ring to wrestle his match against **Jim Jameson**, accompanied by a man in a hood and a camouflage suit. Lawler ran to the ring, grabbed the hooded man, and dragged him behind the curtain, unmasked him, and revealed him to be **Pat Hutchinson**. Hutchinson admitted that Hart paid him off to participate in the masquerade, and that it was really Hart under the hood in the Oriental Connection's corner when Idol lost his title. Well, it seems that some people—particularly Jimmy Hart—can *never* be trusted!

Does this look like a man to be trusted? Jimmy Hart was in wrong corner when Austin Idol was defeated by Masao Ito.

Fans in Florida are fearful that **Kevin Sullivan** will soon form an alliance with **Sir Oliver Humperdink** . . . **Crusher Blackwell** won a record $100,000 in a 20-man battle royal in the St. Paul Civic Center . . . **The Mid-Southern Spoiler** and **Phil Hickerson** defeated **Tommy Rich** and **Eddie Gilbert** for the Mid-Southern tag team belts. Ringsiders characterized the match "a bloodbath."

And that's what's happening. See you at the matches! □

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YOU ASKED US

(Continued from page 12)

the fans. And as far as I go, I'm not exactly being booed when I walk into an arena, you know. I don't feel neglected at all. There's room for all of us."

***

Q: "I want to ask Ronnie Garvin what he would do differently in his next title match against Ric Flair. I saw the match in Baltimore, and I thought he would have won if Flair hadn't pulled his trunks."—Greg Bowden, Salisbury, MD

A: "Well, I gave it all I had, just like I usually do," Garvin said, "and I think you're right, Greg, if he wouldn't have pulled my trunks, I would have had the pinfall.

After nearly defeating Ric Flair in Baltimore, Ronnie Garvin is more confident than ever that he can win the NWA World title.

Flair's a tricky opponent. On top of his experience and his skill, he knows all the ways to cheat past the referee. The next time I wrestle Flair—and I hope it's soon—I'm gonna pull out all of my tricks, too. You don't wrestle for as many years as I have without picking up a few tricks along the way. If Flair can use them, so can I."

***

Q: "I have a question for Exotic Adrian Street: It looks like you're gonna start being friends with Jimmy Valiant, which means you'll be a fan favorite. Will you be taking the glitter makeup off your face and get rid of the ponytails now?"—Garrett Wayne, Myrtle Beach, SC

A: "Now I wouldn't be the Exotic Adrian Street without the makeup, would I," he said. "I would just be any old Joe. And the ponytails are important to my wrestling. Without them, the hair would get into my eyes and I wouldn't be able to see. There is a reason for everything, chap. I wouldn't ask Jimmy Valiant to get rid of his tattoos. They are important to him, as important as my appearance is to me."

***

Q: "My question is for Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie: You paid half a million dollars to put together the tag team of Ken Patera and Crusher Blackwell. With that kind of investment, I'm surprised you let that team end so fast. Now you've bought the contracts of Abdullah the Butcher and Bruiser Brody, and you're not teaming them up at all. Why not?"—Frank Cassalo, St. Paul, MN

A: "First of all, the AWA officials took Ken Patera away from me under the guise of suspension," Al-Kaissie claimed. "I had no choice but to dissolve that team. Luckily, I found out how worthless Crusher Blackwell is on his own at that point, and I've gotten rid of him, too. Brody and Abdullah are two of the most vicious competitors I have ever had the pleasure to witness, and I plan to do a number of different things with them, but I'm not clueing the fans in on my plans. You can find out when it happens." ☐

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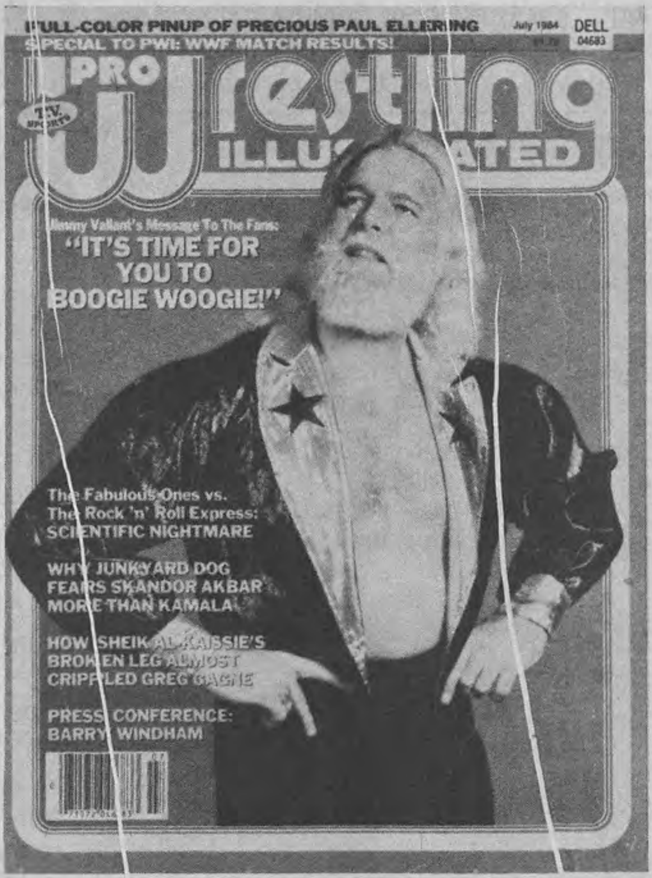

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YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 6)

I read the article in the same issue dealing with Tommy Rich's return. When the contract was signed on television, it was a legal contract. If it contained "loopholes you could drive a truck through," then why did the NWA attorneys not catch them? And they stood behind the contract!

If there were such big loopholes, it would be interesting to see an article explaining them to the wrestling fans.

Until then, Tommy Rich will be just another in a long line of "scientific" wrestlers to weasel out of a loser leave town match—or in this case, a loser quits wrestling match.

BUTCH GAUSE
Cayce, SC

Tommy Rich lost his loser leave wrestling match to Ted DiBiase, and then "weaseled" his way back, writes Butch Gause.

ATTENTION READERS:

In our continuing effort to make ***The Wrestler*** the kind of magazine YOU want to read, we are conducting a survey of our readers. This is a unique opportunity for you to make suggestions on how to improve the quality of this magazine. We want to know what you like and don't like about ***The Wrestler.***

Please complete the following survey. Your participation is appreciated, and by sending in your comments and opinions, you'll be telling us directly what you would like to see in your magazine, ***The Wrestler.***

Which features do you like most *(check off as many as you want)*?

( ) Beyond The Squared Circle	( ) Ratings Analysis
( ) Correspondents' Reports	( ) Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down
( ) Introducing	( ) What's Happening
( ) Matt Brock's Looking Back	( ) X-Ray
( ) Official Wrestling Ratings	( ) You Asked Us
( ) Q & A	( ) Your Letters

What would you like to see more of in ***The Wrestler?***
( ) Action photos
( ) Features on new wrestlers
( ) Full-page pinups
( ) Interviews
( ) Match stories
( ) Stories on wrestlers from my own area of the country
( ) Stories on wrestlers from other areas of the country
( ) Other:

What do you like best in this issue of ***The Wrestler?***

____

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____

Name your three favorite wrestlers:

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3: ____________________

Additional suggestions: ____________________

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Your Age: _____ City: _______________ State: __________

Clip and mail to:
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BAN PIPER?

In the August 1984 issue of *The Wrestler* you gave Roddy Piper "Thumbs Down" for attacking Frank Williams on "Piper's Pit." I agree with you 100 percent. Roddy Piper doesn't deserve to have a spot on televised WWF wrestling every week. He snaps all over the good guys and praises the bad guys. Piper is not what you would call an impartial host. Not only did he attack Williams, he also made fun of Jimmy Snuka by bringing a bag of bananas and coconuts to Snuka's interview and proceeding to smash Snuka in the head with one of the coconuts.

Remember when there was a fan poll to have Piper fired from his announcing job on *Georgia Championship Wrestling?* Well, I think there should be another poll concerning "Piper's Pit."

Piper should be banned, or fans like myself will turn off WWF TV wrestling.

JUSTIN DOMENICUCCI
Bronx, NY □

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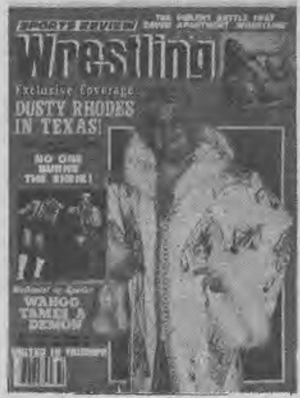


OCTOBER 1979

January 1977/Cover stories: Funk, Bruno. PLUS: Ladd, Abdullah, Mascaras, Stasiak.

February 1978/Cover stories: Rhodes, Andre. PLUS: Gagne, Funk, Maivia, Bockwinkel.

December 1978/Cover stories: Rhodes-Spoiler, Backlund-Steele. PLUS: Valentine, Steamboat, Patera.

August 1979/Cover story: Bruno-Koloff. PLUS: Flair, Orndorff, Funk.

September 1979/Cover story: Flair-McDaniel. PLUS: Garvin, Ladd, Rhodes.

October 1979/Cover stories: Rhodes, McDaniel-Spoiler. PLUS: Steamboat, Slater, Hernandez.

December 1979/Cover story: Brisco-Spoiler. PLUS: Snuka, Andre, Mascaras.

January 1980/Cover stories: Albano-Andre, Flair-Jones. PLUS: Race, Graham, Valiant.

February 1980/Cover story: Rhodes-Funk. PLUS: Race, Spoiler, Brisco.

May 1980/Cover stories: Koloff-Anderson, Brody-Spoiler. PLUS: Graham, Andre.

June 1980/Cover stories: Graham, Patera. PLUS: Rhodes, Lawler, Zbyszko.

July 1980/Cover story: Bruno-Graham. PLUS: Samoans, McGraw, Star Wars 1980.

January 1981/Cover story: Morales-Fuji. PLUS: Zbyszko, Thornton, Keirn.

February 1981/Cover stories: Andre & Morales, Atlas. PLUS: Murdoch, Mascaras, Studd.

March 1981/Cover story: SPECIAL EDITION—Results of 1980 Fan Poll

April 1981/Cover story: Atlas. PLUS: Flair, Moondogs, Wrestling II.

June 1981/Cover stories: Morales-Khan. PLUS: Lawler, Slater, Piper.

August 1981/Cover story: Freebirds. PLUS: Mascaras, Wrestling II, Brisco.

September 1981/Cover story: Backlund-Mosca. PLUS: Freebirds, Flair, Rich, JYD.

October 1981/Cover stories: Rich-Race, Hogan-Hansen. PLUS: Moondogs, Freebirds, Putski-Koloff.

November 1981/Cover story: Rhodes-DiBiase. PLUS: Steamboat, Mulligan, McDaniel, Spoiler.

December 1981/Cover story: Muraco-Morales. PLUS: Patera, Steele, Superstar, Andre.

January 1982/Cover story: Backlund-Muraco. PLUS: Blassie, Andre, Rhodes, Blanchard.

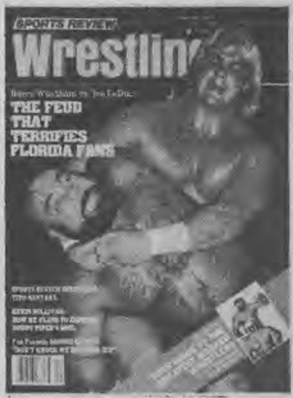
February 1982/Cover story: Mascaras. PLUS: Brisco, Lothario, Slaughter, Sammartino Jr.

March 1982/Cover stories: Valentine, Brisco-Funk. PLUS: Putski, Steele, Flair, Hayes.

April 1982/Cover stories: Spoiler, Idol-Hayes. PLUS: Morales, Super Destroyer, Ladd.

May 1982/Cover story: Rich-Flair. PLUS: Backlund, Superstar, Dillon, Wrestling II.

June 1982/Cover stories: Tommy Rich, Jimmy Snuka. PLUS: Wrestlers rate each other.



DECEMBER 1983

July 1982/Cover stories: Steamboat-Idol, Albano. PLUS: Rhodes, Lawler, Patera.

August 1982/Cover stories: Piper-Rich, Flair-Slater. PLUS: Rhodes, Valentine, Bockwinkel.

September 1982/Cover stories: Von Erich, Bockwinkel. PLUS: Mascaras, Hansen, Rhodes, Blassie.

October 1982/Cover story: Funk-Abdullah. PLUS: Orton, Kabuki, Von Erich.

November 1982/Cover story: Piper. PLUS: Abdullah, Saito, Armstrong, Von Erich.

December 1982/Cover stories: Backlund-Rose, Rhodes-Flair. PLUS: Albano, Humperdink.

January 1983/Cover stories: Rich, McDaniel-Valentine. PLUS: Patera, Brisco, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Race, Morales-Rose. PLUS: Patera, Bravo, Spoiler.

March 1983/Cover stories: Flair-Bass, Snuka. PLUS: Sullivan, Steamboat, Lanza.

April 1983/Cover stories: Backlund-Graham, Briscos. PLUS: Rhodes, Samoans, Hogan.

May 1983/Cover story: Muraco. PLUS: Dillon, Sullivan, Reed, Brisco.

June 1983/Cover stories: Piper, Bockwinkel-Patterson. PLUS: Brody, Sullivan.

July 1983/Cover story: Valiant-Humperdink. PLUS: Martel, Hernandez, Murdoch, Armstrong.

October 1983/Cover stories: Martel-Valentine, Mulligan. PLUS: Lawler, Von Erichs, Bruno.

November 1983/Cover stories: Andre-Mulligan, Kamala-Brody. PLUS: Slater, Wrestling II, Backlund.

December 1983/Cover story: Windham-LeDuc. PLUS: Santana, Sullivan, Garvin.

January 1984/Cover stories: Andre-Abdullah, Bockwinkel. PLUS: Gilbert, Windham, Flair.

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March 1984/Cover story: Starrcade '83 featuring Flair, Steamboat & Youngblood, Piper-Valentine. PLUS: Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.

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August 1984/Cover stories: Rich & Gilbert, Adams-Hayes. PLUS: Zbyszko, Von Erich, The Faces Of Wrestling.

September 1984/Cover stories: Flair-Steamboat, Freebirds-Von Erichs—Special coverage of two championship cards.

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RIC FLAIR

(Continued from page 35)

Race cries out as Flair applies an agonizing abdominal stretch. Race claims that wrestlers are too stunned by Flair's "incompetence" to wrestle him effectively. Soon, according to the seven-time NWA champion, Flair will lose his title.

he was as good as anyone in the sport. On a given night, he could take anyone and do it brilliantly. His economy of movement, strategies, and ability to think with lighting swiftness made him seem unstoppable.

By the time he lost to Von Erich, there was little of that left. He was incredibly lucky to take the title back from Von Erich, something he never could have done if Kerry was a little more experienced. Since then, he's kept his title because his opponents can't believe his skills have left him so completely.

The Garvin match proved that. As a professional, I could tell Garvin was stunned by Flair's incompetence. Time and again, Garvin failed to take advantage of openings because he thought it was too easy; Flair had to be tricking him. As the match wore on, Garvin realized this was no trick; Flair is finished as a wrestler. If it weren't for the referee's inability to enforce the rules, Garvin would have been the new NWA champion.

What caused Flair's deterioration? I can't say for sure. My guess is he never fully recovered from the backbreaking scheduled he endured during his second championship reign. It was an impossible series of matches to survive. The human body can only stand so much; it can't repair itself forever. Sooner or later, the damage becomes permanent. Muscles no longer respond, reflexes get sluggish, and desperation replaces confidence. Flair wouldn't be the first athlete to do too much during a title reign. More than one wrestler has seen his career go sour after he tried too hard to be the best champion in history. Flair is just one of many who saw the title as some sort of glory trail they had to rush down.

After Flair loses the title, which may already have happened by the time this article sees print, there won't be much left of the man. He may hang on for a couple of years living on his reputation. I've never liked the man, but I'll take no joy in seeing him reduced to a pathetic figure. □

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

Closeup on the Southwest: As we do from time to time, *The Wrestler* takes a look at an area of the country that, because of space limitations, is not represented on our ratings pages. This month, we examine Southwest Championship Wrestling, which promotes matches in Texas.

In April, when we last featured Southwest ratings, Killer Brooks held the Southwest heavyweight champion. Brooks lost that title recently to Bobby Jaggers. Since our last set of Southwest ratings, Ken Timbs and Eric Embry lost the Southwest tag team title to "The Raging Bulls" team of Manny Fernandez and Al Perez but later won them back. Embry also holds the United States junior heavyweight championship, having defeated Bobby Fulton for the title.

Steve Keirn and Stan Lane continue to appear in the area in tag team competition, commuting between Texas and the AWA region, as does number two ranked Bruiser Brody.

Bobby Jaggers

SOUTHWEST

1—**BOBBY JAGGERS**
255, Dunlap, Kansas

2—**BRUISER BRODY**
284, Albuquerque, NM

3—**KILLER BROOKS**
259, Waxahache, TX

4—**MANNY FERNANDEZ**
249, San Jose, CA

5—**THE MUMMY**
303, Egypt

6—**ERIC EMBRY**
225, Frankfort, KY

7—**BOBBY FULTON**
240, Columbus, OH

8—**AL PEREZ**
247, Tampa, FL

9—**TONY FALK**
229, Paducah, KY

10—**KEN TIMBS**
241, Macon, GA

Jerry Lawler

Angelo Mosca

Random Notes: In this issue's Mid-Southern ratings, **Jerry Lawler** moves into the number one position. Did Lawler win the Mid-Southern International title? No, that title now belongs to "Oriental Connection" **Masao Ito**, who defeated **Austin Idol** for the belt.

The reason for Lawler's rise in the ratings is that the Ito is embarking on a world tour and will not be able to defend his title until he returns.

You will find the **Mosca** family very well represented in the NWA ratings this month. This is the first time since we expanded our ratings in *The Wrestler* that a father and son have both been rated in the NWA top 10. **Angelo Mosca Sr.**, as Southern heavyweight champion, holds the number four position, while his son **Angelo Jr.** ranks eighth as the Mid-Atlantic titleholder.

Although the National television title is being held up as of press time, **Ronnie Garvin**, the last legitimate holder of that championship, is still rated number two in the Georgia ratings. This rating is based on Garvin's sterling performance as the TV titleholder, a number of outstanding title defenses against former TV champ **Jake "The Snake" Roberts**, and his outstanding effort in recent matches against NWA World champion **Ric Flair.**

The address for mail: We invite you to send your comments on our ratings system and on "Ratings Analysis" c/o *The Wrestler;* Box 48; Rockville Centre, NY 11571. □

OFF[F...]
WRESTLIN[...]

Ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler. These ratings are compiled by the editors and are universally recognized as official.

Rick Martel

Hulk Hogan

Tully Blanchard

TOP10

1—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
2—ANDRE THE GIANT
497, Grenoble, France
3—RICK MARTEL
236, Quebec City, Quebec
4—HULK HOGAN
320, Venice Beach, CA
5—HARLEY RACE
253, Kansas City, MO
6—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
7—KERRY VON ERICH
251, Denton, TX
8—WAHOO McDANIEL
260, Midland, TX
9—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX
10—CARLOS COLON
238, Santa Isabel, Puerto Rico

TAG TEAMS

1—IVAN KOLOFF & DON KERNODLE
NWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 485 pounds
2—BARON VON RASCHKE & CRUSHER
AWA World tag team champions
Combined weight: 539 pounds
3—THE ROAD WARRIORS
National tag team champions
Combined weight: 567 pounds
4—MICHAEL HAYES & TERRY GORDY
Top contenders for National tag team title
Combined weight: 544 pounds
5—DICK MURDOCH & ADRIAN ADONIS
WWF tag team champions
Combined weight: 521 pounds
6—BARRY WINDHAM & MIKE ROTUNDO
U.S. tag team champions
Combined weight: 475 pounds
7—ICEMAN PARSONS & BUCK ZUMHOFE
World Class American tag team champions
Combined weight: 464 pounds
8—TOMMY RICH & EDDIE GILBERT
Top contenders for Mid-Southern tag team title
Combined weight: 460 pounds
9—DENNIS CONDREY & BOBBY EATON
Mid-South tag team champions
Combined weight: 483 pounds
10—STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE
Top contenders for AWA World tag team title
Combined weight: 479 pounds

NWA and AWA ratings are compiled with the assistance of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters. "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices.

MOST POPULAR

1—ANDRE THE GIANT
497, Grenoble, France
2—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
3—JIMMY VALIANT
251, New York, NY
4—HULK HOGAN
320, Venice Beach, CA
5—RICK MARTEL
236, Quebec City, Quebec
6—KERRY VON ERICH
251, Denton, TX
7—SGT. SLAUGHTER
310, Parris Island, SC
8—BILLY JACK
245, Portland, OR
9—RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI
10—JUNKYARD DOG
260, New Orleans, LA

MOST HATED

1—TULLY BLANCHARD
235, San Antonio, TX
2—TED DiBIASE
247, Omaha, NE
3—KEVIN SULLIVAN
235, Boston, MA
4—ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER
360, Sudan
5—IVAN KOLOFF
249, Moscow, Russia
6—NIKOLAI VOLKOFF
345, Siberia, Russia
7—THE IRON SHEIK
262, Teheran, Iran
8—ANGELO MOSCA
309, Caledou, Ontario
9—JIM GARVIN
235, Tampa, FL
10—BUTCH REED
249, Kansas City, MO

NWA

World Champion:
RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
1—WAHOO McDANIEL
260, Midland, TX
2—BRAD ARMSTRONG
223, Marietta, GA
3—HARLEY RACE
253, Kansas City, MO
4—ANGELO MOSCA
309, Caledou, Ontario
5—KERRY VON ERICH
251, Denton, TX
6—ANGELO MOSCA JR.
234, Caledou, Ontario
7—SUPERSTAR GRAHAM
260, Paradise Valley, AZ
8—CARLOS COLON
238, Santa Isabel, Puerto Rico
9—GINO HERNANDEZ
224, Houston, TX
10—RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI

AWA

World Champion:
RICK MARTEL
236, Quebec City, Quebec
1—NICK BOCKWINKEL
245, Beverly Hills, CA
2—BLACKJACK LANZA
260, Laredo, TX
3—ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER
360, Sudan
4—BRUISER BRODY
284, Albuquerque, NM
5—JUMBO TSURUTA
240, Tokyo, Japan
6—JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN
7—LARRY ZBYSZKO
240, Pittsburgh, PA
8—GREG GAGNE
220, Robinsdale, MN
9—BILLY ROBINSON
246, Manchester, England
10—BRAD RHEINGANS
248, Appleton, MN

CIAL G RATINGS

For period ended June 27, 1984

Below are the ratings for the top regional wrestling areas of the country. These ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters.

WWF

Champion:
HULK HOGAN
320, Venice Beach, CA

1—TITO SANTANA *245, Mission, TX*
2—GREG VALENTINE *243, Seattle, WA*
3—BOB BACKLUND *242, Princeton, MN*
4—SGT. SLAUGHTER *310, Parris Island, SC*
5—COWBOY BOB ORTON *245, Kansas City, KS*
6—DAVID SHULTZ *265, Memphis, TN*
7—JIMMY SNUKA *250, Fiji Islands*
8—PAUL ORNDORFF *253, Brandon, FL*
9—THE IRON SHEIK *262, Teheran, Iran*
10—GEORGE STEELE *298, Detroit, MI*

GEORGIA

1—BRAD ARMSTRONG *223, Marietta, GA*
2—RONNIE GARVIN *231, Montreal, Quebec*
3—TED DiBIASE *247, Omaha, NE*
4—THE SPOILER *266, parts unknown*
5—JAKE ROBERTS *243, Baton Rouge, LA*
6—KING KONG BUNDY *420, Atlantic City, NJ*
7—BILLY JACK *245, Portland, OR*
8—NIKOLAI VOLKOFF *345, Siberia, Russia*
9—TIM HORNER *235, Morristown, TN*
10—KING KONGA *265, Chicago*

FLORIDA

1—ANGELO MOSCA *309, Caledou, Ontario*
2—SUPERSTAR GRAHAM *260, Paradise Valley, AZ*
3—BILLY JACK *245, Portland, OR*
4—DUSTY RHODES *302, Austin, TX*
5—MIKE ROTUNDO *245, Syracuse, NY*
6—BARRY WINDHAM *230, Sweetwater, TX*
7—DICK SLATER *235, Tampa, FL*
8—RON BASS *285, Pampa, TX*
9—KEVIN SULLIVAN *235, Boston, MA*
10—MIKE DAVIS *232, Atlanta, GA*

MID-ATLANTIC

1—WAHOO McDANIEL *260, Midland, TX*
2—ANGELO MOSCA JR. *234, Caledou, Ontario*
3—TULLY BLANCHARD *235, San Antonio, TX*
4—JIMMY VALIANT *251, New York, NY*
5—THE MASKED OUTLAW *244, parts unknown*
6—RICK STEAMBOAT *238, Honolulu, HI*
7—MARK YOUNGBLOOD *230, Amarillo, TX*
8—EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET *220, South Wales*
9—DICK SLATER *235, Tampa, FL*
10—BUZZ SAWYER *240, St. Petersburg, FL*

WORLD CLASS

1—GINO HERNANDEZ *224, Houston, TX*
2—JIM GARVIN *235, Tampa, FL*
3—KERRY VON ERICH *251, Denton, TX*
4—CHRIS ADAMS *225, Stratford on Avon, England*
5—KEVIN VON ERICH *254, Denton, TX*
6—TERRY GORDY *289, Chattanooga, TN*
7—THE MISSING LINK *273, parts unknown*
8—MIKE VON ERICH *220, Denton, TX*
9—KILLER KHAN *312, Mongolia*
10—BUTCH REED *249, Kansas City, MO*

MID-SOUTH

1—MAGNUM T.A. *245, Chesapeake, VA*
2—MR. WRESTLING III *275, parts unknown*
3—KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV *303, Thief River Falls, MN*
4—TERRY TAYLOR *219, Vero Beach, FL*
5—MR. WRESTLING II *232, Atlanta, GA*
6—JUNKYARD DOG *260, New Orleans, LA*
7—BUTCH REED *249, Kansas City, MO*
8—NIKOLAI VOLKOFF *345, Siberia, Russia*
9—JAY YOUNGBLOOD *237, Amarillo, TX*
10—JOE SAVOLDI *238, Parsippany, NJ*

MID-SOUTHERN

1—JERRY LAWLER *234, Memphis, TN*
2—MASAO ITO *247, Osaka, Japan*
3—RANDY SAVAGE *235, Sarasota, FL*
4—RICK RUDE *233, Robinsdale, MN*
5—TOMMY RICH *238, Hendersonville, TN*
6—EDDIE GILBERT *222, Lexington, TN*
7—RICK MORTON *215, Nashville, TN*
8—ROBERT GIBSON *217, Pensacola, FL*
9—LANNY POFFO *228, Sarasota, FL*
10—JIM NEIDHARDT *248, Calgary, Alberta*

NORTHWEST

1—RIP OLIVER *245, Tampa, FL*
2—BRETT SAWYER *242, St. Petersburg, FL*
3—PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE *245, Minneapolis, MN*
4—MR. EBONY *240, parts unknown*
5—TOM PRITCHARD *220, Houston, TX*
6—ED WISKOWSKI *255, San Francisco, CA*
7—ARMANDO GUERRERO *233, Juarez, Mexico*
8—THE ASSASSIN *240, parts unknown*
9—MIKE MILLER *260, Memphis, TN*
10—DOUG SOMERS *244, Minneapolis, MN*

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THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT

Whatever it is you need or want, Witchcraft can get it for you quickly, easily, and automatically, say these experts. You'll discover how it can bring abundant and overflowing wealth, find or bring back a lover, ward off evil influences, and much more—step-by-step in plain English, with complete easy-to-follow instructions!

Yes . . . Witchcraft! Every time you hear the word it brings with it the feelings of deep occult secrets—secrets that you would like to know so that your life can be better; so that your enemies will stop bothering you; so that serenity, love, power and comfort can be yours!

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BRINGS AUTOMATIC ASSURED SUCCESS!

Witchcraft can bring your heart's desire! You can use it to heal someone, influence the boss to give you that raise, or make someone stop bothering you! It's easy! The easiest thing in the world! You don't have to be wealthy or super-intelligent to get started! Thousands of ordinary people all over the world are using Witchcraft Power right now!

Witches have known for centuries that people are scared of them and their powers! And rightly so! NOW YOU CAN SHARE THE SAME POWER that gives you—literally—life and death control over other persons! Is someone bothering you? No problem at all, with Magic Witchcraft. For example, there is a spell called the "Cross Not My Path" ritual, for people who are having neighbor trouble. When you use it, you know you will never again have trouble with this neighbor!

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Whatever you want or need, whatever frustration is bothering you, Witchcraft will help you. It is not evil—nor is it Black Magic. Like electricity, it is simply a power given by nature for the use of men, to make life easier.

You'll see how to get paid without working . . . how to get expensive clothes and furs FREE . . . how to get a first-class plane seat FREE . . . how to vacation at the finest hotels, motels, pools and pleasure palaces, start living like a millionaire as Witches do!

AMAZING TECHNIQUE HAS HELPED THOUSANDS!

Witchcraft secrets like these can make you rich faster than anything else in the world! Here's how others have used them to make miracles happen in their daily lives!

You'll see how Vern, a man who likes to give a lot of expensive parties, was always short of cash until he discovered the amazing WITCH'S MONEY JAR—now all he has to do is dip in, for it brings him an endless flow of cash! Evelyn, a waitress, was always lending money to friends, and was always broke. Finally, she placed her last dollar on the table, and worked the MONEY MAGNET SPELL over it. All at once, dozens of people who had borrowed money from her, rushed to pay her back!

Hank was perpetually broke. One night he got together with some friends, and they decided to cast the MONEY SPELL. The very next day, Hank received in the mail a check for some $250 worth of insurance. (He had never heard of the company that sent the check, he was not insured with them, and had never even made a claim—but he accepted the money.) Another member of the group that used the spell, a 40-year-old secretary, received an automobile as a gift! All the other members of the group received amazing windfalls of money, as well! You'll see how Dexter, a retiree, lives RENT FREE *and* receives $200 a week at the age of 78, with a secret you'll find in this Witch Book! You'll see how Claudine, a secretary, was able to wear the finest, most expensive furs—FREE—and spend weekends at an expensive ski lodge in the mountains, where she met a wonderful man! How Ruth L., a widow—with nothing but a small pension, and a little savings—received her dream house, by using a simple 5-minute ritual on page 38 of this book!

Using the same Witchcraft secrets, YOU can achieve peace of mind and freedom from money worries for the rest of your life!

IN THIS WITCH BOOK YOU'LL DISCOVER . . .

- How to Cast Spells that Really Work!
- Your Magic Window on the World!
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- Influencing Others to Do Your Bidding!
- Controlling a Conversation!
- The Technique of Silent Persuasion!
- Using Witchcraft to Find Friends!
- How to Find the Lover You Want!
- How to Bring Your Perfect Mate to You!
- How to Dominate Others!
- Witchcraft Power for Money!
- Witchcraft Power to Make You Irresistible to Others!
- Spells for Finding Lost Objects!
- How to Always Win with Luck Spells!
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- Raising Your Vital Energy Level!
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Now! Let This Amazing Witch Book Bring You INFINITE WEALTH, FINE POSSESSIONS, A COMFORTABLE NEW HOME, FINANCIAL SECURITY, LOVE, CONTROL OVER OTHERS, And More—Easily And Automatically!

For centuries, these Witchcraft secrets were hushed up, so that those in power could stay in power! Feudal lords kept their bondsmen as slaves. Factory owners kept their employees in dreaded sweatshops, because these masters knew they must not allow their workers to realize that they need not labor their lives away. Witchcraft was suppressed because it works! Not because of any "evil" in it. If it hadn't worked, no one would have worried about it. If you want to gain power, all you need is this amazing Witch Book!

By using these Witchcraft secrets, you too can change your life and gain health, wealth, someone to love—or anything else—surely, swiftly and automatically!

- **THE WITCH'S MONEY JAR!**—You'll discover the secret of the Witch's Money Jar, a mysterious jar that fills with money—whenever you want or need it! All you need is some water, pennies, and an ordinary jar or bowl! You'll be amazed at the speed with which it fills with money—a seemingly endless supply of needed cash!
- **THE WITCH'S MONEY MAGNET!**—You'll see how to magnetize a dollar bill so that it multiples! All you need to make your own Witch's Money Magnet is a dollar bill, a green candle, and the words on page 38. Once you do this, your dollar will double and keep doubling! You'll enjoy glittering luxuries, and start living like a millionaire, as Witches do!
- **THE WITCH'S BLACK MIRROR!**—Just as your TV set has been called your "window on the world," so the Black Mirror is your "window on the psychic world"—the world of the unknown. Making your own personal Black Mirror takes only a few moments and can open the way to unguessable visions. All you need is a bowl of water, some ink, and the chant on page 23. Suddenly you will see scenes from other places and times, or any scene you wish to see!

YOU CAN HEAL YOURSELF AS WITCHES DO!

Feeling sick today? Plagued by a lot of troublesome illnesses? Perhaps some relative is sick and constantly demanding your attention? Or perhaps it is even a pet that needs help? With the MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT, you can cure anything, say authors Gavin and Yvonne Frost: "In our experience . . . we have not found a single incurable disease!"

- **ANDY DISSOLVES A GALLSTONE!**—Andy M. developed gallstones. When his illness became too troublesome to ignore, he went to a doctor. Urine tests revealed that he was chronically alkaline. His body was badly out of balance. Using this Witchcraft method to restore balance to the mind and body—in a short while, X-rays showed that he had no more gallstones! Andy never again suffered the excruciating pain of passing stones!

In the same way, say Gavin and Yvonne Frost, almost all illness can be prevented. You are actually employing an ancient Witchcraft method to remove diseased tissue! Even if you do not have any belief in the results, the power will work for you!

One woman, who had been in a wheelchair for 26 years, due to polio and arthritis, used the Witchcraft healing method, and reported that she had no pain and could walk and garden again! A man reported that his son's deep 3rd degree burns miraculously healed overnight!

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AMAZING POWER CAN BE YOURS!

Whether you want infinite wealth, or just a comfortable new home, financial security, fine possessions, love, companionship, new health and vigor, power to control others, secret knowledge, protection from evil, or anything else, the magic power of Witchcraft can bring it to you quickly, easily and automatically! It's the easiest thing in the world!

- **HOW TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE!**—Would you like to be able to see the future? You CAN with the magic Black Mirror you'll see how to make on page 23. All you need is some ink and a bowl of water. Then use the chant on this page, and you will be able to see many things. One man uses it to read tomorrow's newspaper. YOU can use it to check the stock market or that important horse race!
- **MAKE TIME RUN BACKWARD OR FORWARD!**—A Witch uses ancient methods to make time stand still or to run it backward or forward! To make your face look young or old at will, all you need is some morning dew, and the instructions on page 27. You can fly through time and space, on astral wings, go anywhere, do anything, with the simple method on page 126. You can visit a friend, look in on an acquaintance and see what he is doing—even appear in someone's dreams, and convince that person to do whatever you wish!
- **SECRETS OF SILENT PERSUASION!**—There is a magic handshake that Witches often use, revealed on page 62. With this secret, you can implant a thought in someone's mind! You can use this Witchcraft power to dominate others! Control your boss! Make someone love you! Leave your enemies groveling in the dust! There is even a gazing technique Witches use on page 45, for identical thoughts. With this secret, you can read your friend's mind and share his or her identical thoughts!

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MEET THE AUTHORS

GAVIN FROST, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.D., is Archbishop of the Church of Wicca, New Bern, North Carolina with national headquarters in Salem, Missouri, branches in several states and worldwide membership. He is Marshal of the Gold Star of England, with the right to wear the Saffron Robe and one of the very few Witches in the Western Hemisphere privileged to wear the authentic mark of initiation on his wrist. Although descended from a long line of mystics and scholars, and formerly a Vice-President and Director of International Operations for major aerospace companies, he prefers to be thought of as a humble teacher.

Mrs. YVONNE FROST, A.A., D.D., with her husband Gavin Frost, devotes her time to giving private instruction and publishing *Survival*, the newsletter of the Church of Wicca, of which she is a Bishop.

Articles by or about Gavin and Yvonne Frost have appeared in such national publications as *Midnight* and the *National Enquirer*.

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GAIN UP TO 5, 10, 15 POUNDS

without dangerous drugs, without exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines, MEN—an impressive manly body, WOMEN—a curvier, glamorous figure.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Send for the GAIN Plan today. Try if for 7 days entirely at our risk. If, at the end of 7 days, you haven't started to gain pounds and inches and to look better and to feel better . . . If you aren't convinced the GAIN Plan is a safe, pleasant, way to gain weight, don't keep it! Return the empty bottle and get your money back immediately, no questions asked!

If you had started this amazing method just a few short weeks ago, right now you could be up to 5, 10, even 15 pounds heavier or more!

At last, no matter what you have tried, no matter what you have done, if you are a normally healthy person, you can gain up to 5, 10, 15 pounds or more safely, surely, pleasantly, and that's a guaranteed money-back fact.

Yes now, even if you have been thin for years, you can have the fuller, more attractive body you have always wanted without dangerous drugs, without heart-straining exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines!

This exciting method is easy, pleasant, and medically sound beyond a shadow of a doubt, and your own Doctor could tell you the same thing.

VITAL NOTE

A current issue of a famous medical journal reports on a recent government controlled study. This study, conducted over a 24 year period on 5,000 underweight and overweight men and women, proves that being underweight is as injurious to health and longevity as being overweight.

HERE'S ALL YOU DO

Before meals, or whenever you feel like it, you take delicious, chewable, nutritionally fortified GAIN tablets and that's it! No other medication to take. Nothing difficult or unpleasant to do, and without even being aware of it, a wonderfully exciting change takes place.

Those high-calorie GAIN tablets are rich in body-building materials! They not only add weight themselves, but they sharpen your appetite! You look forward to mealtimes, and without even realizing it, you start to eat more and almost immediately the weight gaining process begins!

As you follow your GAIN Plan which includes nutritional high calorie menus. You add pounds and inches to your arms, legs, chest, hips, everywhere. You'll be amazed at the fantastic transformation that occurs . . . as thin, unattractive areas start to develop into new magnetic appeal. You'll be thrilled to discover that as you gain weight you will have more pep and energy for all the wonderful things in life!

THINK OF WHAT THIS CAN MEAN TO YOU

If you are one of those unfortunate people who can't wear all the new high style clothes you want to wear . . . if you are ashamed of the way you look in a bathing suit . . . embarrassed because your legs are too thin and spindly . . . your chest is too flat . . . your arms aren't the full, rounded limbs they were meant to be . . . If you long for a more attractive-looking body, the safe, pleasant GAIN Plan can be the answer to your prayers!

Yes, now, with the GAIN Plan to help, it's so easy, so pleasant to add pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh . . . so full-filling to feel better, stronger, more vital and alive! But don't take our word for it. Prove it to yourself at our risk!

If you sincerely want to gain weight, and to look better and feel better as a result,

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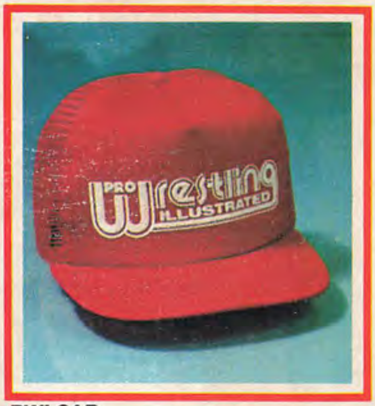

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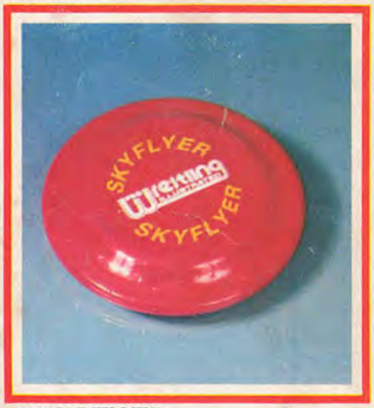

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The perfect companion to the *PWI* T-shirt. A bright crimson-red hat emblazoned with a white *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* logo in unique raised lettering for a spectacular three-dimensional look and feel. Be the first fan in your neighborhood to wear one! Top-quality, long-wearing—one size fits all. Only $7.00.

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Wear the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* button proudly on your shirt, jacket, or hat to show the world you love pro wrestling. A sturdy button with safety pin backing, the official *PWI* button is oblong in shape and measures 1¾ inches by 2¾ inches. Dynamic red logo on bright yellow background. Only $1.00.

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***PWI* BUTTON**	$1.00 ea.		
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